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ORIGIN OF MASONRY

IN THE

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,

AND THE ENTIRE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE,

FROM ITS

Firſt Organization, A. L. 5786.

COMPILED FROM AUTHENTIC SOURCES

BY JOSEPH H. HOUGH, GRAND SECRETARY.

TRENTON, N. J:
PUBLISHED BY JOSEPH H. HOUGH.
MURPHY & BECHTEL, PRINTERS.
1870.

TO THE MEMBERS

OF THE

Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons for the State of New Jersey,

The Work contained in the following Pages

IS MOST RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED,

WITH FRATERNAL REGARD, BY

THE GRAND SECRETARY.

INTRODUCTION.

The undersigned long had it in contemplation to preserve and give to the Craft the History of Masonry in New Jersey, and to print the transactions recorded from the organization of the Grand Lodge, in 1786, to this time.

There being but one copy of the first fifty years, and that in manuscript, we should be remiss in our duty not to take the means to preserve the records of the past, and inform ourselves of what has transpired within that period.

Upon my coming into their possession in 1842, upon the decease of our lamented Grand Secretary, Brother John Mershon, I took this old minute book to a fire-proof vault for its better security, where it has been for several years, and having made some preliminary arrangements, collected what information of an authentic nature could be collected, leave was obtained to print the minutes at the last Communication, to wit:

"The Grand Secretary asked leave to print the Minutes of the Grand Lodge from its commencement, in 1786, together with the History of Masonry in this State anterior thereto, at his expense, which was, on motion, granted."

The Historical part of this volume has been kindly written by Past Grand Master William Silas Whitehead, to whom the Craft, and more especially myself, are under deep and lasting obligations for his zeal and labor employed in its compilation.

The publication has been gotten up with but one idea, that is, its preservation, and not with a view of reaping any pecuniary reward for the labor bestowed, and will be disposed of at cost; all the publisher expects will be a return of his actual outlay, from the liberal and intelligent Masons of the State of New Jersey.

JOSEPH H. HOUGH,

TRENTON, *October* 10, 1870. *Grand Secretary*

AN HISTORICAL SKETCH

OF

FREE MASONRY IN NEW JERSEY,

PRIOR TO THE FORMATION OF THE GRAND LODGE, IN A. D. 1786.

The early history of Free Masonry in New Jersey is involved in much obscurity. Prior to the institution of the Grand Lodge in this State, the Craft pursued their labors under authority derived, directly or indirectly, from the Grand Lodges of England, both of the Ancients and the Moderns, and had no central, local authority around which their interests were clustered. Being also at that time, Colonies, and, before the Declaration of Independence, politically dependent upon the mother country, the brethren were not actuated by that State pride which exercises so great an influence in preserving the local records of societies and communities. For these and other reasons, among which may be classed the sparseness of the population, the infrequency with which it may be presumed the Lodges were in the habit of meeting, and the general upturning of society occasioned by the War of the Revolution, the records of the early Masonic Lodges in this State have become dispersed and destroyed, and the materials, which have been collected, furnish but a narrow basis for a History of the Craft. This is greatly to be regretted, because there is perhaps no State in the Union whose early Masonic history, if it could be brought to light and written, would be more interesting than that of New Jersey.

The records of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey from its institution in 1786, to the present day, are fortunately full and

complete. The Grand Lodge at its Annual Communication authorized the publication of these records. The annexed sketch is intended to collate as far as possible the facts connected with Masonry and Masons in New Jersey, prior to 1786, which the investigations made by the Historical Committee have disclosed, and which have been derived from other sources, as a preface to that publication. While from the scantiness of the materials to which the compiler has had access, this sketch must necessarily be little more than a skeleton, yet it is hoped that it may prove interesting, and that its general perusal by the Craft will incite further enquiry and research, which may eventually result in filling up many gaps now remaining vacant.

It had long been known to Masonic antiquarians in the United States, that in or about A. D. 1730, a deputation had been granted to a Provincial Grand Master of New Jersey. In Preston's "Illustrated Masonry," the author speaks of the success of the Grand Lodge of England under the Grand Mastership of the Duke of Norfolk, during the reign of George II, and says that in 1730, "he established a Grand Lodge by deputation, at New Jersey, in America."

In Calcott's "Disquisitions upon Masonry," is a list of Provincial Grand Masters, with the date of the appointment of each. Daniel Cox is mentioned for New Jersey in 1730.

An old "History of Masonry," printed in 1754, says that "a deputation was granted to Daniel Coxe, as Provincial Grand Master in New Jersey, in 1730."

In the historical work compiled by Bro. J. W. S. Mitchell, he says that "Anderson, in his 'History of Masonry,' states that a warrant was issued by the Grand Lodge of England, in 1729, for a Provincial Grand Lodge in New Jersey, America."

It will be seen from the above extracts, that the information existing with reference to this subject was so shadowy and unsatisfactory as almost to amount to the vagueness of tradition. The researches, however, of the Historical Committee of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, have removed the obscurity with which this subject was shrouded, and have fixed definitely the date of the deputation, the name of the Provincial Grand Master,

the extent of his jurisdiction and the power and authority vested in him by the Grand Lodge of England.

The investigations of the Historical Committee in the records of the Grand Lodge of England, furthered by the fraternal courtesy of R. W. Bro. William Gray Clarke, late Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of England, have resulted in finding the record of the original deputation. The copy was furnished by Bro. Clarke and is certified by him as a true copy. Below is a copy of this record:

"*Copy of the Deputation to DANIEL COX, Esquire, to be Provincial Grand Master of the Provinces of New York, New Jersey and Pensilvania, in America.*

"*Sic Subscribitur.*

[L. S.] "NORFOLK, *G.·. M.·.*

"To all and every our Right Worshipful, Worshipful and loving Brethren now residing or who may hereafter reside in the Provinces of New York, New Jersey and Pensilvania, His Grace, Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal and Hereditary Marshal of England, Earl of Arundel, Surrey, Norfolk and Norwich, Baron Mowbray, Howard Segrave, Brewse of Gower, Fitz Allan, Warren, Clan Oswald, estre Maltravers, Greystock, Furnival Verdon, Lovelot, Strango of Blackmere, and Howard of Castle Rising, after the Princes of the Royal Blood, first Duke Ear and Baron of England, Chief of the illustrious family of the Howards, Grand Master of the free and accepted Masons of England, sendeth Greeting:

"Whereas application has been made unto us by our Rt. Worshipful and well beloved Brother, Daniel Cox, of New Jersey, Esqr., and by several other Brethren, free and accepted Masons, residing and about to reside in the said Provinces of New York, New Jersey and Pensilvania, that we would be pleased to nominate and appoint a Provincial Grand Master of the said Provinces: Now Know Ye, that we have nominated, ordained, constituted and appointed, and do by these Presents nominate, ordain, constitute, and appoint, our Right Worshipful and well beloved Brother, the said Daniel Cox, Provincial Grand Master of the said Provinces of New York, New Jersey and Pensilvania, with full Power and Authority to nominate and appoint his Deputy Grand Master and Grand Wardens for the space of two years from the feast of St. John the Baptist now next ensuing, after which time it is our Will and Pleasure and we do hereby ordain that the Brethren who do now reside, or who may hereafter reside, in all or any of the said Provinces shall and they are hereby empowered every other year on the feast of St. John the Baptist to elect a Provincial Grand Master, who shall have the power of

nominating and appointing his Deputy Grand Master and Grand Wardens. And we do hereby empower our said Provincial Grand Master, and the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Grand Wardens for the time being, for us and in our place and stead to constitute the Brethren (free and accepted Masons) now residing or who shall hereafter reside in those parts into one or more regular Lodge or Lodges, as he shall think fit, and as often as occasion shall require. He, the said Daniel Cox, and the Provincial Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Grand Wardens for the time being taking special care that all and every member of any Lodge or Lodges so to be constituted have or shall be made regular Masons, and that they do cause all and every the Regulations contained in the printed Book of Constitutions, except so far as they have been altered by the Grand Lodge at their Quarterly Meetings, to be kept and observed, and also all such other Rules and Instructions as shall from time to time be transmitted to him or them by us, or Nath'l Blackerly, Esqr., our Deputy Grand Master, or the Grand Master or his Deputy for the time being, and that he, the said Daniel Cox, our Provincial Grand Master of the said Provinces, and the Provincial Grand Master for the time being, or his Deputy, do send to us or our Deputy Grand Master, and to the Grand Master of England or his Deputy for the time being, annually an account in writing of the number of Lodges so constituted, with the names of the several members of each particular Lodge, together with such other matters and things as he or they shall think fit to be communicated for the prosperity of the Craft. And lastly, we will and require that our said Provincial Grand Master, and the Grand Master for the time being or his deputy, do annually cause the Brethren to keep the feast of St. John the Evangelist, and dine together on that day, or (in case any accident should happen to prevent their dining together on that day) on any other day near that time, as the Provincial Grand Master for the time being shall judge most fit, as is done here, and at that time more particularly and at all Quarterly Communications he do recommend a General Charity to be established for the Relief of poor Brethren of the said Province.

"Given under our hand and seal of office at London, this fifth day of June, 1730, and of Masonry 5730.

"*True Copy:* WM. GRAY CLARKE, *G. S.*

"*Free Masons' Hall, London, April* 10, 1863."

This deputation is said to have been cotemporaneous with the establishment of a Provincial Grand Lodge in Lower Saxony, in Europe, and the granting of a warrant for one in Bengal, Asia. It will be seen that the jurisdiction of Daniel Coxe was not limited to New Jersey, as appears to have been the opinion

of the writers whom we have quoted, but embraced also New York and Pennsylvania. The error probably arose from the fact that the residence of Brother Coxe was in New Jersey, as will hereafter appear.

Diligent research in the Archives of the Grand Lodge of England, and thorough inquiry for letters and papers bearing upon the subject, among the decendants of Bro. Coxe, have failed to disclose any testimony whatever of the exercise by him, or any one acting under his authority, of the prerogatives contained in the deputation. Upon this subject Bro. Clarke, Grand Secretary of England, in a letter to our Historical Committee, says:

"I cannot find any application from Bro. Coxe and others for the appointment of Provincial Grand Master. Bro. Coxe did not make any report of the appointment of Deputy Grand Master or Grand Wardens; neither did he report the congregating of Masons into Lodges. He did not transmit any account of having constituted Lodges, and does not, indeed, appear to have established any.

"At the period when he was appointed, *it was a rare thing for any Reports to be made by the Provincial Grand Masters abroad of their doings.* Brief details came in once or twice from Bengal, but I find none from any other foreign country.

"The names of members belonging to Lodges abroad, I imagine, were never sent home until the year 1768, when the system of registration was established. This was done for the purpose of raising funds for the ordinary expenses of the Grand Lodge, &c."

The only other mention of Bro. Coxe to be found on the records of the Grand Lodge of England appears on the journal of the meeting of that Grand Lodge, January 29th, 1731. Upon that occasion, the record states that "Bro. Daniel Coxe, Provincial Grand Master of 'North America,' was present and his health was drank."

By the foregoing deputation, the fact is established that Daniel Coxe was the *the first appointed Provincial Grand Master of Masons in the New World.* His authority antedates that of Henry Price, Provincial Grand Master of Massachusetts, by nearly three years, the deputation of the latter having been dated April 30th, A. D. 1733. From the fact that Bro. Coxe was referred to at the meeting of the Grand Lodge of England

in 1731, as "Provincial Grand Master of *North America*," we think it may reasonably be inferred that there was at that time no other Provincial Grand Master in any portion of North America.

Although no returns were ever made to the Grand Lodge of England by Bro. Coxe, of his transactions by virtue of his Deputation, it is by no means conceded that nothing was done by him under that authority. On the contrary, some known facts would seem to prove that the authority was brought into practical operation. It is a fact, gathered from the columns of the press of that day, that there existed a Lodge in Philadelphia in 1732, of which William Allen, the Recorder of the city, was Master. The source from which this Lodge derived its authority cannot be ascertained. If it was warranted by Provincial Masonic authority, it must have been the offspring of Bro. Coxe's deputation, as the Provincial Grand Lodge of Massachusetts had no existence until 1733, and no record can be found of any Provincial authority prior to Bro. Coxe's. It appears, also, that on the 24th day of June, A. D. 1734, a warrant was granted by Henry Price, Provincial Grand Master of Massachusetts, to Benjamin Franklin, constituting him Master of a Lodge in Philadelphia. At that time Coxe's authority under the Deputation had expired by its own limitations, which will account for the fact that the application for Franklin's warrant was made to Price and not to Coxe. Franklin must have been made a Mason prior to this time. When and where that interesting event took place, is not known. We think, however, from such information as we possess, and in the absence of any positive evidence to the contrary, that it may be safely inferred from the circumstances of the case, that Benjamin Franklin was made a Mason under the authority contained in the deputation to Daniel Coxe, above recited.

It will doubtless be interesting to the Craft, to know more of this Daniel Coxe, whose name has thus become so prominent in American Masonry.

In the 3d volume of the collections of the New Jersey Historical Society, (Field's Provincial Courts of New Jersey) we learn that he was an eminent lawyer, the son of Dr. Daniel Coxe,

known as "the great proprietor" in New Jersey, and that for many years, he was a member of the Council of the notorious Lord Cornbury, and Speaker of the House of Assembly, during a portion of the administration of Gov. Hunter. His name appears frequently from 1705 to 1735, in the "Analytical Index to the New Jersey Colonial Documents," New Jersey Historical Society's collections. From this volume we learn that he went to England in 1716 or 1717. To an immense tract of land lying between the 31st and 36th degrees of north latitude, and extending westward from the western boundary of Carolina, "so far forth as much as the continent extends itself," comprising the territory lying between the Gulf of Mexico and the southern boundary of Kentucky, Bro. Coxe claimed title through his father, Dr. Daniel Coxe, the assignee of a charter granted by King Charles I, to Sir Robert Heath in 1630, and his claim was fortified by charters from King Charles II, about thirty years after the aforementioned grant to Sir Robert Heath. In 1722, Bro. Coxe published in London "a description of the English Province of Carolina, by the Spaniards called Florida, and by the French La Louisiana, as also of the great and famous river Meschacebe or Mississippi, the five vast and navigable lakes of fresh water and the parts adjacent, together with an account of the commodities of the growth and production of the said Province, and a preface containing some considerations on the consequences of the French making settlements there." Judge Field says that this preface contained suggestions connected with the formation of our federal government, and that the celebrated "Albany plan of Union," recommended by Dr. Franklin in 1754, is little more than a transcript of the design sketched by Daniel Coxe many years before. He was appointed Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of New Jersey in 1734, and remained upon the bench until his death, which occurred in 1739. His early career was clouded by his connection with Lord Cornbury and his differences with Gov. Hunter, but he lived to enjoy the confidence and respect of the community, and his judicial duties appear to have been discharged with ability and integrity.

In Smith's "History of New Jersey," we find frequent mention

of his name, and this volume gives a slight trace of his residence. He is mentioned as Col. Daniel Coxe of Gloucester county, in the list of members of the Assembly which convened in the spring of 1716, at which time he was elected speaker. From all that can be gathered from other sources, it is believed that he was a resident of Burlington. That he was there buried, there can be no doubt, as in the east transept of the old church of St. Anne's (now St. Mary's) Parish, there is a marble slab bearing this inscription:

DANIEL COXE,
DIED APRIL 25, 1739.
ÆTAT 65.

The Masonic Annals of England furnish us with the names of Daniel Coxe, in 1730, by the Deputation above recited; Richard Riggs, in 1737; and Francis Goelet, in 1751, as each having authority to congregate the brethren and establish Masonic Lodges in the province of New York. There is no recorded certainty that either of these, except Francis Goelet, acted on his commission, and the only record of his proceedings in his Provincial Grand Mastership, which has been met with, is an account found in a newspaper of that day, from which it appears that upon the installation of George Harrison, as successor of Francis Goelet, on St. John the Evangelist's day (December 27th) 1753, in the City of New York, a Grand Lodge, which had previously existed in the Province, was convened. George Harrison presided as Provincial Grand Master for eighteen years, and, during that time, established Lodges in the City of New York, and at other places in the Province of New York, and one in the Province of New Jersey, of which we now come to speak.

On the 13th day of May, A. D. 1761, a constitutional number of Master Masons residing in the town of Newark, made application for and received from the hands of M. W. George Harrison, Provincial Grand Master of the State of New York, a Warrant, empowering them to enter, pass, and raise candidates for the mysteries of Free Masonry, according to the Ancient Constitutions of the Order, the customs and usages of the Craft, and the rules and regulations of the Grand Master, as

set forth in his Warrant of Dispensation. William Tukey, Esq. was appointed Master, David Jamison, Esq., Senior Warden; James Banks, Esq., Junior Warden, and Lewis Ogden, Secretary.

The place first selected for meeting was the Rising Sun Tavern, but it was finally changed to the private residences of the members; the first change being to the house of John Robinson. The original minutes of the Lodge for three years from its institution are still in existence in the Archives of St. John's Lodge.

From 1764, until January 1768, and during a portion of 1769, the minutes were suspended. In 1769 they were re-opened, and continued until January, 1772. From that date until April, 1788, and during the darkness of the American Revolution, the lights were extinguished and the sound of the gavel was no longer heard,

In the old minute book under date of *December 24th*, 1779, a time when the Lodge had ceased labor, we find a memorandum, which is here appended, *verbatim et literatim:*

"An acct of sundrie articles taken out of the Lodge Chest of Newark St. John's Lodge, No 1, by consent of Bro. John Robinson, Bro. Lewis Ogden, Brother Moses Ogden & Lent unto Brother Thomas Kinney & Bro. Jerry Brewin to carry as far as Morris Town, said Bro's Kinney & Brewin promising on the word of Brothers to return the same articles as p'r Inventory below unto our Bro. John Robinson, present Secretary when called-for witness our hands Brothers as below—

"24 Aprons, besides one that was bound and fring'd which Bro. Kinney claims as his own.

"2 Ebony Trunchions tipt with silver, the other they are to get if to be found.

"3 Large Candlesticks.

"3 Large Candlemolds.

"1 Silk Pedestal Cloth Bound with Silver Lace.

"1 Damask Cutchion.

"1 Silver Key with a blue Ribbon striped with black.

"1 " Levell " "

"1 " Square " "

"1 " Plumb " "

"Newark, Dec'r 24, 1779.

(Signed) THOMAS KINNEY
JERH. BRUEN."

At the close of the year 1779, the head quarters of General George Washington were at Morristown, New Jersey. At this place various military Lodges which had been organized in the American army, were at work. On the 27*th of December*, 1779, a festival meeting of the American Union Lodge was held at Morristown, to celebrate the festival of St. John the Evangelist. Further reference to this meeting will hereafter be made in the proper place. Bro. George Washington was present at this meeting. From the coincidence of dates, we have no doubt that the Masonic furniture and jewels above mentioned, were lent by St. John's Lodge for the purposes of this festival. This view is strengthened by the fact, that the minutes of this meeting of American Union Lodge, now in the possession of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut, record the names of Brothers Kinney and Bruen (who became responsible to St. John's Lodge for the return of the articles loaned as above) among the visiting brethren on that occasion.

It has always been a tradition in St. John's Lodge, that Bro. Lafayette was made a Mason at Morristown, with the assistance of the jewels and furniture, lent by St. John's Lodge as aforesaid. As there is no record, however, of the time and place of Bro. Lafayette's initiation, the truth of this tradition can not, at present, be verified.

At the formation of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, St. John's Lodge was represented by Moses Ogden. A warrant was granted to the Lodge and it was numbered No. 2, the Lodge at Bedminster in the county of Somerset, being No. 1. The Lodge at Bedminster having become extinct, St. John's Lodge was allowed to assume its number, (1) and it has ever since been so designated.

St. John's Lodge, No. 1, is still in active operation, and is enjoying a high degree of prosperity. In 1861 the Lodge celebrated its Centennial Anniversary with great eclat, the oration upon the occasion being delivered by the late Bro. George M. Giger, D. D., professor of the Greek language and Architecture, in the College of New Jersey.

On the 30th day of April, A. D. 1733, a deputation was

granted by Lord Montacute (otherwise called Montague), Grand Master of England, to Henry Price, "in behalf of himself and several other brethren residing in New England," appointing him "Provincial Grand Master of New England aforesaid, and dominions and territories thereunto belonging." Upon the receipt of this commission, and on the 30th day of July in the same year, a Provincial Grand Lodge was formed in Boston, with Henry Price as Grand Master, by the title of "St. John's Grand Lodge." This Grand Lodge was sometimes called the "Grand Lodge of Modern Masons." Henry Price having resigned, R. W. Robert Tomlinson was appointed Provincial Grand Master, by John, Earl of Loudoun, Grand Master of England, and was duly installed and invested, April 20th, A. D. 1737. Upon the decease of Robert Tomlinson, R. W. Thomas Oxnard was commissioned as Provincial Grand Master, by John, Lord Ward, Baron of Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, &c., Grand Master of England, and was duly installed, March 6, 1744. Upon his decease he was succeeded, on October 1, 1755, by R. W. Jeremy Gridley, who had received a deputation from James Brydges, Marquis of Caernarvon, Grand Master of Masons in England, appointing him "Provincial Grand Master of North America, where no Grand Master is appointed."

At the celebration of the Anniversary of St. John the Baptist, June 24, 1762, by the St. John's Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, under the Grand Mastership of R. W. Jeremy Gridley, a Deputation was granted "to Jonathan Hampton, Esq., to constitute a Lodge by the name of Temple Lodge, No. 1," in Elizabethtown, New Jersey.

On the 27th day of December, 1763, at the celebration of the festival of St. John the Evangelist, a petition was granted by the same Grand Lodge, under the same Provincial Grand Mastership "for constituting a Lodge by the name of St. John's Lodge, at Princetown (now Princeton), in New Jersey."

No record of the transaction of either of these Lodges has been discovered. By personal enquiry at the office of the Grand Secretary of Massachusetts, it has been ascertained that they were both duly organized and did Masonic work. The

Archives of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts contained some documents in connection with them; but these, with other valuable Masonic papers, were unfortunately destroyed by the fire which consumed the Masonic Temple in Boston, a few years since.

On the twentieth day of June, A. D. 1764, the Grand Lodge of London in Great Britain, of which the Right Worshipful and Right Honorable Thomas Erskine, Earl of Kelley, Viscount Fenton, Lord Baron of Pitten Weem, &c., was Grand Master; William Osborne, Deputy Grand Master; William Dickey, Senior Grand Warden; and James Gibson, Junior Grand Warden, by a Provincial Grand Warrant under the seal of that Grand Lodge, constituted and appointed R. W. William Ball, Esq., Grand Master of Masons for the Province of Pennsylvania and the territories thereunto belonging. This Grand Lodge of London was known in the nomenclature of the day, as the "Grand Lodge of Ancient Masons," in contradistinction to the Grand Lodge of England, from which Henry Price of Massachusetts, and George Harrison of New York, obtained their respective deputations, which was known as the "Grand Lodge of Modern Masons." This Warrant to R. W. William Ball, was the corner stone of the Temple of Pennsylvania Masonry, and by virtue of its authority, several Lodges were instituted in New Jersey. The original Deputation, together with an autograph letter of Lawrence Dermott, Grand Secretary, which accompanied it, is still in the Archives of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, in an excellent state of preservation. Both of these papers are of great interest to the Masonic antiquarian, as relics of the olden time.

At some time in the year 1767, this Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, thus constituted, under the Grand Mastership of R. W. William Ball, granted a Warrant for a Lodge at Baskingridge, in New Jersey, which was known as No. 10, on the Pennsylvania Registry. The precise date when, and the names of the individuals to whom this Warrant was granted, cannot now be ascertained, as the records of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania prior to the Revolution, have been lost or destroyed.

That such a Warrant was issued cannot be doubted, as the number is found on the Register of Pennsylvania, and it is there mentioned as a Lodge located in Baskingridge, New Jersey. It was represented at the Convention which formed the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, and its members then claimed affiliation with Lodge No. 10, of the Pennsylvania Registry.

The only reference to this Lodge which can be found on the Journal of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, occurs at the meeting held March 26th, 1781, at which is found the following entry:

"Bro. Gray informed the Lodge, (Grand Lodge) that he had seen the Warrant of No. 10, in the possession of Dr. Blatchley. *Ordered*, That the Grand Secretary be directed to write to him concerning it."

No correspondence, as a consequence of this resolution, appears either in the files or upon the Journal of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

The Dr. Blatchley referred to in the foregoing recited resolution, was doubtless, the same whose name was appended to the agreement by which the Grand Lodge was constituted, and was there signed by him as "Ebenezer Blatchley, Junior Past Master of Lodge No. 10."

The Journal and other papers of Lodge No. 10 cannot be found, and it is impossible to state with any certainty, what were its operations and what its success, prior to the institution of the Grand Lodge. At that date it appears to have been in successful operation, as the agreement by which the Grand Lodge of New Jersey was formed, was more numerously signed by the members of that Lodge than by those of any other. We find appended to that agreement, the names of two Past Masters, the Worshipful Master, the Wardens, the Deacons, and sixteen of the floor members of Lodge No. 10.

This Lodge is undoubtedly the same which is mentioned in the proceedings connected with the organization of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, as the "Lodge at Bedminster," and to which, by general consent, the number "one" was assigned at the meeting of the Grand Lodge, held at Trenton, April 7th, 1787. The Lodge appears to have been first designated as

"Somerset Lodge, No. 1," and afterwards as "Solomon's Lodge, No. 1." It subsequently became extinct and its distinguishing number was assigned to St. John's Lodge.

The Journal of the meeting of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, held on the 20th day of December, A. D. 1779, contains the following entry:

"A petition from Isaiah Wool and five other Brethren from Monmouth County in New Jersey, praying a Warrant for holding a new Lodge was read;

"And the Petition was Unanimously granted, and a Warrant will be made out when they shall have elected the proper officers."

Upon the minutes of a meeting of the same Grand Lodge, held on the 29th day of the same month, is found the following record:

"Agreeably to the unanimous resolution of this Grand Lodge to grant a Warrant for a new Lodge to be held at Middleton (now Middletown), in Monmouth County, in New Jersey, Brother Wm. Bostwick, the Master elect received his Warrant, No. 23, and was accordingly install'd Master & saluted in proper form—he was instructed how to install Br Isaiah Wool, S. Warden & Br John Motte, Jr Warden of the said Lodge."

The foregoing is the only record, and all the information, which have come to light in reference to Lodge No. 23. It does not appear to have been subsequently represented at any of the Communications of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, from which it received its Warrant; and it is very probable that it never did any Masonic work. At the foundation of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey it was not represented; neither do we find the names of either of the brethren, to whom the Warrant was granted, in the list of the signers to the agreement by which the Grand Lodge was constituted. Jonathan Rhea, to whom the Grand Lodge of New Jersey granted a Dispensation for a Lodge in Monmouth county, January 30th, 1787, represented himself as a member of Lodge No. 19, of the Pennsylvania Registry, as also did Col. John Noble Cumming, the first Grand Secretary. From these facts it may reasonably be inferred, that No. 23 had become extinct prior to 1786.

Although not strictly connected with the History of New

Jersey Masonry, yet as the interesting events about to be narrated took place on New Jersey soil and within the Masonic jurisdiction of New Jersey, it is deemed that a reference to them will not be inappropriate in this sketch. They are inserted in this place with reference to the date of their occurrence.

As has before been stated, the head quarters of Washington, at the close of the year 1779, were at Morristown, in this State. The "Ameriean Union Lodge," which was an army Lodge, whose Warrant had been granted, February 15, 1776, to certain brethren of the Connecticut line, by Colonel Richard Gridley, Deputy Grand Master of Massachusetts, was at that time with the army under Washington, at Morristown. At the festival meeting of this Lodge, held to celebrate the festival of St. John the Evangelist, December 27, 1779, (being the same meeting to which reference has been made in the sketch of St. John's Lodge, No. 1,) the record shows the presence of sixty-eight brethren, one of whom was George Washington. At this meeting "a petition was read, representing the present state of Free Masonry to the several Deputy Grand Masters in the United States of America, desiring them to adopt some measures for appointing a Grand Master over such States." It was ordered that this petition be circulated through the different lines of the army; and also, "that a Committee be appointed from the different Lodges of the Army, from each line, and from the staff of the army, to convene on the first Monday of February, next, at Morristown, to take the petition into consideration." This committee accordingly met at Morristown, February 7th, 1780, with the following attendance, as appears by an extract from a record of their proceedings:

"At a committee of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, met this 7th day of the second month in the year of Salvation, 1780, according to the recommendation of a Convention Lodge, held at the celebration of St. John the Evangelist.

"Present, Brother JOHN PIERCE, M. M., delegated to represent the Masons in the military line of the State of Massachusetts Bay, and Washington Lodge, No. 10; Brother JONATHAN HART, M. M., delegated to represent the Masons in the military line of the State of Connecticut, and American Union Lodge; Brother CHARLES GRAHAM, F. C., delegated

to represent the Masons in the military line of the State of New York; Brother JOHN SANFORD, M. M., delegated to represent the Masons in the military line of the State of New Jersey; Brother GEORGE TUDOR, M. M., delegated to represent the Masons in the military line of the State of Pennsylvania; Brother OTHO HOLLAND WILLIAMS, M. M., delegated to represent the Masons in the military line of the State of Delaware; Brother MORDECAI GIST, P. W. M., delegated to represent the Masons in the military line in the State of Maryland; Brother PRENTICE BROWN, M. M., delegated to represent St. John's Regimental Lodge; Brother JOHN LAWRENCE, P. W. M., delegated to represent the brothers in the staff of the American army; Brother THOMAS MACHIN, M. M., delegate to represent the Masons in the corps of artillery."

Bro. Mordecai Gist was chosen President, and Bro. Otho Holland Williams was chosen Secretary of the Committee.

The following address was presented by Bro. Williams:

"TO THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL,

THE GRAND MASTERS OF THE SEVERAL LODGES IN THE RESPECTIVE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

UNION. FORCE. LOVE.

"The subscribers, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in convention, to you, as the patrons and protectors of the craft upon this continent, prefer their humble address.

"Unhappily, the distinctions of interest, the political views, and national disputes subsisting between Great Britain and these United States have involved us, not only in the general calamities that disturb the tranquillity which used to prevail in this once happy country, but in a peculiar manner affects our society, by separating us from the Grand Mother Lodge in Europe, by disturbing our connection with each other, impeding the progress, and preventing the perfection of Masonry in America.

"We deplore the miseries of our countrymen, and particularly lament the distresses which many of our poor brethren must suffer, as well from the want of temporal relief, as for want of a source of *light* to govern their pursuits and illuminate the path of happiness. And we ardently desire to restore, if possible, that fountain of charity, from which, to the unspeakable benefit of mankind, flows benevolence and love: considering with anxiety these disputes, and the many irregularities and improprieties committed by weak or wicked brethren, which too manifestly show the present dissipated and almost abandoned condition of our lodges in general, as well as the relaxation of virtue amongst individuals.

"We think it our duty Right Worshipful Brothers and Seniors in the Craft, to solicit your immediate interposition to save us from the im-

pending dangers of schisms and apostasy. To obtain security from those fatal evils, with affectionate humility, we beg leave to recommend the adopting and pursuing the most necessary measures for establishing one Grand Lodge in America, to preside over and govern all other lodges of whatsoever degree or denomination, licensed or to be licensed upon the continent; that the ancient principles and discipline of Masonry being restored, we may mutually and universally enjoy the advantages arising from frequent communion and social intercourse. To accomplish this beneficial and essential work, permit us to propose that you, the Right Worshipful Grand Masters, or a majority of your number, may nominate as Most Worshipful Grand Master of said lodge, a brother whose merit and capacity may be adequate to a station so important and elevated, and transmitting the name and nomination of such brother, together with the name of the lodge to be established, to our Grand Mother Lodge in Europe for approbation and confirmation, and that you may adopt and execute any other ways or means most eligible for preventing impositions, correcting abuses, and for establishing the general principles of Masonry; that the influence of the same in propagating morality and virtue may be far extended, and that the lives and conversation of all true Free and Accepted Masons may not only be the admiration of men on earth, but may receive the final approbation of the Grand Architect of the Universe, in the world wherein the elect enjoy eternal light and love.

"Signed in convention, at Morristown, Morris County, this 7th day of the second month, in the year of our Saviour, 1780."

This address having been read, it was unanimously agreed that it should be signed and forwarded with an extra copy of the proceedings of the Committee, signed by the President and Secretary, to the respective Provincial Grand Masters; and thereupon the Committee adjourned without day.

Although the name of George Washington did not appear upon this address, yet it was formally signified to the Grand Lodge to which the address was sent, that he was the choice of the Committee for the office of General Grand Master.*

Cotemporaneous with these proceedings of Army Masons, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania was also considering the propriety of appointing a General Grand Master over all the Grand Lodges formed or to be formed in the United States, and upon a ballot had at an emergent communication, convened at Philadelphia, January 13th, 1790, it was unanimously determined that

* Hayden's "Washington and his Masonic Compeers."

a Grand Master of Masons should be nominated for the United States, and upon a ballot being had, George Washington was elected for that office by the unanimous vote of the Grand Lodge.*

It is well known however, to the Craft, that the project failed; principally by reason of the disapproval of the proposition manifested by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. Since that time, although frequent overtures have been made to establish a General Grand Lodge of the United States with a General Grand Master, the fear of the several State Grand Lodges, that the proposed Body might undertake to limit their prerogatives or infringe upon their exclusive jurisdiction, has caused all such attempts to meet with failure. The Grand Lodge of New Jersey, as early as July, 1790, put itself upon record in opposition to the scheme, by the adoption of the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That the constituting of a Federal or Supreme Grand Lodge, to have jurisdiction over the respective Grand and other Lodges throughout the continent, as proposed by the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Georgia, is inexpedient, and, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, impracticable."

The Grand Lodge, however, as will be seen, at the same time adopted resolutions favoring a Convention of Deputies from the several Grand Lodges within the United States, solely for the purpose of union and intercourse, and not for the purpose of legislation.

The Registry of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania discloses the existence of two Lodges, warranted by that Grand Lodge, and designated by the number "31." One of these Lodges was a local Lodge, situated at Norristown, in that state; the other is designated as a "Traveling Lodge." No. 31, at Norristown, was warranted in March, 1781, and the "Traveling Lodge" by the same number, was, doubtless, warranted about the same date. It is recorded in the Pennsylvania Registry immediately preceding the record of the Norristown Lodge. No minute of the issuing of this Warrant for a Traveling Lodge can be found in the Pennsylvania records or files, and we are left entirely in the dark as to its exact date, the names of its officers and its

* Hayden's "Washington and his Masonic Compeers."

precise location and authority. That it was an Army Lodge, connected with the New Jersey troops in the field, clearly appears from the following entry upon the journal of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, of the date of June 17, 1784:

"The Grand Secretary has received £6, 10s from Brother Proctor, in full, for Traveling Warrant No. 31, of the Jersey line, and paid the same to Hall and Sellers, in part for printing 500 copies of Dr. McGaw's Sermon."

The foregoing is the only reference to this Lodge which appears upon the Pennsylvania records.

The next historic record to be found of Masonic Lodges in New Jersey, is the warranting of a Lodge at Burlington, by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, which was designated as No. 32.

The following entry appears upon the Journal of a meeting of that Grand Lodge, held March 27th, 1781:

"A petition was read from a number of Brethren in Burlington, praying for a Warrant to hold a Lodge there. The petition was accompanied with a very warm recommendation from Bro. Blaithwaite Jones. The Grand Lodge taking the same into consideration, it was unanimously granted. Joseph Ellis was appointed Master, Samuel Bullus, Senior Warden and Bethanath Hodgkinson, Junior Warden. The Deputy Grand Master and Senior Grand Warden are requested to go to Burlington and install the officers of the said new Lodge."

It appears from the minutes of the Lodge, that on the 30th day of March, 1781, an Emergent Grand Lodge was held in Ample Form, at Burlington, for the purpose of constituting the new Lodge. The members of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, who were present, were R. W. Alexander Rutherford, D. G. M. in the chair; R. W. Blaithwaite Jones, late D. G. M., acting as such, p. t.; R. W. Jacob Bankson, S. G. W.; and R. W. John Clark, acting as J. G. W. The Lodge was duly constituted and Joseph Ellis, was duly installed Master by R. W. Blaithwaite Jones, and when seated in the chair, was presented by R. W. Alexander Rutherford, with the jewels of his office, the Book of Constitutions and the Warrant of his Lodge. Samuel Bullus as Senior Warden, and Bethanath Hodgkinson as Junior Warden, were then installed by the new Master and invested with the "jewels and *accomplishments* of their respective offices."

The following is a Copy of the Warrant issued to Burlington Lodge, No. 32, and delivered to the Master on this occasion:

WM. BALL, G. M.
[L. S.] ALEXANDER RUTHERFORD, D. G. M.
JACOB BANKSON, S. G. W.
MATTHEW WHITEHEAD, J. G. W.

To All Whom it may Concern:

We the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, according to the Old Constitutions, held in the city of Philadelphia, for the Province of Pennsylvania, by virtue of a Provincial Grand Warrant from the Grand Lodge of London, in Great Britain, whereof then the Right Worshipful and Right Honorable Thomas Erskine, Earl of Kelley, Viscount Fenton, Lord Baron of Pitten Weem, &c., in Great Britain, was Grand Master of Masons; the Right Worshipful Mr. William Osborne, Deputy Grand Master; the Right Worshipful Mr. William Dickey, Senior Grand Warden, and the Right Worshipful James Gibson, Esq., Junior Grand Warden, under their hands and the seal of their Grand Lodge, constituting and appointing the Right Worshipful William Ball, Esq., Grand Master of Masons for the Province of Pennsylvania and the Territories thereunto belonging, the Right Worshipful Captain Blaithwaite Jones, Deputy Grand Master, the Right Worshipful Mr. David Hall, Senior Grand Warden, and the Right Worshipful Mr. Hugh Lennox, Junior Grand Warden, authorizing and empowering them and their successors to grant Dispensations, Warrants or Constitutions for the forming, holding and governing Lodges within their jurisdiction, as by the the said Warrant, bearing date the twentieth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred sixty and four, and of Masonry, five thousand seven hundred sixty and four, reference being thereunto had, may more at large appear.

Now Know Ye, that we, William Ball, Grand Master; Alexander Rutherford, Deputy Grand Master; William Adcock, Senior Grand Warden, and Matthew Whitehead, Junior Grand Warden, present and legal successors to the above named Provincial Grand Officers, as by the Grand Lodge Books may appear, by virtue of the power to us granted by the above part recited Warrant, do hereby authorize and empower our trusty and well beloved brethren Joseph Ellis, Master; Samuel Bullus, Senior Warden, and Bethanath Hodgkinson, Junior Warden of a new Lodge, number thirty-two, to be held in the city of Burlington, in the state of New Jersey, or within five miles of the same, and we do further authorize and empower our said trusty and well beloved brethren Joseph Ellis, Master; Samuel Bullus, Senior Warden, and Bethanath Hodgkinson, Junior Warden, to admit and make Free Masons according to the Most Ancient and Honorable custom of the Royal Craft in all ages and nations

thro'out the known world and not contrariwise. And we do further empower and appoint the said Joseph Ellis, Master; Samuel Bullus, Senior Warden, and Bethanath Hodgkinson, Junior Warden, and their successors, to hear and determine all and singular matters and things relating to the Craft, within the jurisdiction of Lodge No. 32. And lastly, we do hereby authorize and empower our said trusty and well beloved brethren Joseph Ellis, Master; Samuel Bullus, Senior Warden, and Bethanath Hodgkinson, Junior Warden, to nominate, chuse and install their successors, to whom they shall deliver this Warrant and invest them with all their powers and dignities as Free Masons, and such successors shall in like manner nominate, chuse and install their successors, &c., &c., &c., such installation to be on or near St. John the Evangelist's day, during the continuance of this Lodge forever. *Provided always*, that the above named brethren and their successors pay due respect to the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge from whom they have their authority. Otherwise this Warrant to be of no force or virtue.

Given under our hands and the seal of the Grand Lodge at Philadelphia, this twenty-sixth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-one, and of Masonry five thousand seven hundred and eighty-one.

WM. SMITH, *Grand Secretary.*

Upon the reverse of the minutes of the meeting, held March 30th, 1781, is endorsed the following receipt:

"Received March 30th 1781 from the Worshipful Joseph Ellis New Install'd Master under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania Number Thirty & two, Two thousand one hundred and sixty dollars the dues to the Grand Lodge for granting their Warrant.

"JACO. BANKSON.

"2160 Doll'rs Con'l Curr'y."

This seems to be an enormous sum to pay for a Lodge Warrant; but when it is remembered that the amount was calculated in Continental currency, and when it is ascertained, that at a subsequent period, when the Treasurer was directed to reimburse the members who had advanced the money for the Warrant, an appropriation of six pounds was only required for that purpose, the expense of the Warrant does not seem so disproportionate to the present rates. The fact is interesting to note, as shewing the extraordinary depreciation, at that time, of the Continental Currency.

The minutes of No. 32, from March 30th, 1781, to December 18th, 1783, are still in existence. They show that, during that

period, monthly meetings were held with great regularity, and that the Lodge was so constantly occupied with Masonic Work, that emergent meetings were frequently rendered necessary.

The following entries with respect to this Lodge, are found upon the minutes of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. Under date of December, 1781 is found the following:

"No. 32 paid all dues to this day and the advance for nine Books, amounting in all to forty nine shillings & sixpence to the Grand Treasurer."

On December 23d, 1782, the following minute appears:

"No. 32 produced their proceedings and a return of the members with the dues to this day amt'g to	£3	13	
"Paid by Bro. Phillips to Bro. Young, G'd Treas	1	18	4
"Due this day from No. 32,	£1	14	8

Prior to 1786, the Lodge must have become dormant; for we find upon the Journal of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, of the date of June 12, 1786, the following entry:

"It was reported to the Grand Lodge that the Warrant granted for holding a Lodge in the City of Burlington, No. 32, is in some persons hands in that place and is made no use of—Ordered, that the Secretary be requested to write to some Brother residing in that place and requesting him to use his endeavors to find the same and transmit it to the Grand Lodge."

Burlington Lodge, No. 32, does not appear to have been represented at the New Brunswick Convention of 1786. The agreement, however, entered into and signed by such as were present at the Convention, was subsequently signed in behalf of No. 32, by Samuel Bullis, P. M., John How, Bethanath Hodgkinson and James Craft.

A Lodge is still in existence at Burlington which received a Warrant from the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, and is one of the most successful and prosperous Lodges within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge. It is known as No. 32, having retained upon the New Jersey Registry the number by which its predecessor was designated on the Registry of Pennsylvania.

The pre-revolutionary Grand Lodge of New York, of which George Harrison was Grand Master, having become extinct

during the War of the Revolution, the Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons of London, on the 5th day of September, 1791, by their Warrant of that date established a Provincial Grand Lodge in the city of New York. This Warrant appointed the Rev. William Walter, Provincial Grand Master, John Studholme Brownrigg, Senior Grand Warden, and Rev. John Beardsley, Junior Grand Warden. The first recorded meeting of this Provincial Grand Lodge was held in the city of New York, on the 18th day of May, 1782. The record of this meeting contains the following minute:

"The petition of Brother Samuel Pryers in behalf of himself and Bro's Abram Buskirk, Edward Earl, John Buskirk, Richard Cooper, Justus Earl, John Van Norden, William Lovell and John Hamwell, members of Lodge No. 169, and officers in the Third Battalion of Jersey Volunteers, praying for a Warrant to form and hold a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, was granted."

Lodge No. 169, of which the above named petitioners had formerly been members, was a local Lodge in the City of New York, working under a Warrant from the Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons in London, before the Provincial Grand Warrant was granted to William Walter and his associates, in 1782. After the close of the War, this Lodge (No. 169) continued its connection with the Grand Lodge of New York, and became "St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 7." It is now extinct.

Upon the minutes of the Provincial Grand Lodge of New York, William Walter, Grand Master, under date of February 5th, 1783, is found the following entry:

"Lodge No. 2, held in the 3d Battalion of New Jersey Volunteers having expressed a desire that it may be called St. George's, the same was granted."

This was doubtless the same Lodge to which a Warrant was granted, May 18, 1782.

At the time of the granting of this Warrant, the British troops were in possession of the City of New York; and they remained in possession until November 25th, 1783. There can be no doubt that this Lodge was composed of Loyalists, and was connected with the British military line. Its records have been lost. It is probable that most of its members went to Nova

Scotia or other British Provinces, upon the evacuation of New York.

On the 2d day of September, 1782, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania (William Ball being as yet Grand Master) granted a Warrant to certain brethren of the New Jersey line in the Federal army for a Military Lodge, to be known as No. 36. The following is the minute of the action taken by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, at that date:

"A petition signed by 20 Brethren Officers in the Jersey line, was read, praying for a Warrant to hold a travelling military *Warrant*, to be attached to the said line,

"The same was unanimously granted. The proposed officers were, The Rev. Andrew Hunter for Master, Joseph J. Anderson S. W. & Capt. Aaron Ogden J. W. to be numbered No. 36."

At a subsequent Communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, held December 11th, 1782, appears the following minute:

"The Rev'd Andrew Hunter was duly recommended in form to the R. W. Grand Master in the Chair, for Installation as Master of Lodge, No. 36, granted to the New Jersey Brigade, the 2d September last and was accordingly installed."

The following is a copy of the Warrant granted to Brother Hunter and his associates, for the army Lodge, No. 36:

"WILLIAM BALL, GRAND MASTER.
"ALEX. RUTHERFORD, DEP. GRAND MASTER.
[L. S.] "WILLIAM ADCOCK, SR. GRAND WARDEN.
"WILLIAM McILVAINE, JR. GRAND WARDEN.

"*To all whom it may concern*

"We the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons according to the Old Constitution held at Philadelphia for the Province of Pennsylvania by virtue of a Provincial Grand Warrant from the Grand Lodge of London in Great Britain, whereof then the Right Worshipful and Right Honorable Thomas Erskine Earl of Kelley, Viscount Fenton, Lord Baron of Pitten Weem &c., in Great Britain was Grand Master of Masons; The Right Worshipful Mr. William Osborne Deputy Grand Master; The Right Worshipful Mr. William Dickey Senior Grand Warden and The Right Worshipful James Gibson Esqr. Junior Grand Warden, under their hands and the Seal of their Grand Lodge, constituting and appointing the Right Worshipful William Ball Esquire Grand Master of Masons for

the Province of Pennsylvania and the Territories thereunto belonging, The Right Worshipful Captain Blaithwait Jones Deputy Grand Master, The Right Worshipful Mr. David Hall Senior Grand Warden and the Right Worshipful Mr. Hugh Lennox Junior Grand Warden authorizing and empowering them and their successors to grant Dispensations, Warrants, or Constitutions for the forming holding and governing Lodges within their jurisdiction, as by the said Warrant bearing date the twentieth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred sixty and four, and of Masonry, Five thousand seven hundred sixty and four reference being thereunto had may more at large appear.

"Now Know Ye, that we William Ball Grand Master, Alexander Rutherford Deputy Grand Master, William Adcock Senior Warden and William McIlvaine Junior Grand Warden present and legal successors to the above named Provincial Grand officers, as by the Grand Lodge Books may appear, by virtue of the power to us granted by the above in part recited Warrant, do hereby authorize and empower our trusty and well beloved Brethren, The Reverend Andrew Hunter (present Chaplain to the New Jersey Brigade) Master, Captain Joseph Insley Anderson Senior Warden, and Captain Aaron Ogden Junior Warden of a new traveling Lodge Number Thirty-six to be held *in the respective Cantonments of the aforesaid New Jersey Brigade* and not elsewhere, and we do further authorize and empower our said Brethren the Rev. Andrew Hunter, Master, Captain Joseph Insley Anderson Senior Warden and Captain Aaron Ogden Junior Warden to admit and make Free Masons according to the most Ancient and Honorable Custom of the Royal Craft in all ages and Nations thro'out the known world and not contrarywise (and this Grand Lodge doth by the Powers vested in them strictly enjoin and require that no citizens be initiated under the said traveling warrant Number thirty-six while in the vicinity of any Lodge of Ancient Free Masons within the United States of America excepted only when Special Dispensations shall be granted for the purpose aforesaid by the Grand Master, or in his absence by the Deputy Grand Master of such Grand Lodge wheresoever this Lodge may be convened,) and we do further empower and appoint our said Brethren and their successors to hear and determine all and singular matters and things relating to the Craft within the jurisdiction of Lodge No. 36, and lastly we do hereby authorize and empower our said trusty and well beloved Brethren, The Rev. Andrew Hunter, Captain Joseph Insley Anderson, Senior Warden, and Captain Aaron Ogden Junior Warden, to nominate choose and install their successors to whom they shall deliver this warrant and invest them with all their powers and dignities as Free Masons, and such successors shall in like manner nominate chuse and install their successors &c. &c. &c. such installation to be upon or near St. John the Evangelist's day during the continuance of this Lodge, Provided always that the above named Brethren and their

successors pay due respect to the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge from whom they have their authority otherwise this warrant to be of no force or virtue.

"Given under our hands and the Seal of the Grand Lodge at Philadelphia this Second day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-two—And of Masonry Five thousand seven hundred and eighty-two.

"JOSEPH HOWELL JUN. *Dep. Gd. Secretary.*

"CHAS. YOUNG, *Gd. Treasurer.*"

In 1784, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, by resolution, called in all the Army Warrants, which had been issued by that Grand Lodge. In consequence of this action of the Grand Lodge, the Warrant of No. 36 was duly surrendered, as appears by the following minute of the date of December 20th, 1784.

"The Grand Secretary reported that he had received Travelling Warrant No. 29, of the Pennsylvania line and No. 36, of the Jersey line."

No records of No. 36, are now known to be in existence. A careful search in the records and files of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania fails to disclose any reference to this Lodge except what is cited above. The Lodge does not appear to have been represented at the New Brunswick Convention, at which the Grand Lodge of New Jersey was formed.

As No. 36, was the only Masonic Lodge in the New Jersey line of the Federal Army, of which there remains any tangible record, a brief biographical sketch of the brethren to whom the Warrant was granted, so far as the materials at hand for that purpose will permit, may not be uninteresting to the Craft. Diligent enquiry has failed to disclose any information with reference to Capt. Joseph Inslee Anderson, the Senior Warden.

The Rev. Andrew Hunter, Chaplain in the American army and Master of Lodge No. 36, was a son of the Rev. Andrew Hunter, Pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Greenwich, Cumberland county, New Jersey. He belonged to an influential family, distinguished in the early annals of New Jersey. He married a daughter of Richard Stockton, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, and one of his sons became Attorney General of New Jersey.

Massachusetts is not the only State of the original thirteen which carried its opposition to the tax on tea so far as to

destroy the article taxed. New Jersey claims to divide that honor. When the excitement in the Colonies on this subject was rife, the captains of several tea ships destined for Philadelphia, deeming it unsafe to attempt to land their cargoes at that port, put back and most of them returned to England. One of the ships, however, the Greyhound, ventured up the Cohansey, and discharged at Greenwich, the birthplace and residence of Chaplain Hunter. The cargo was landed without resistance and deposited in the cellar of a house fronting on the market place. On the evening of the 22d day of November, 1744, a party of about forty men assembled and made a raid upon the tea. The chests and contents having been removed to an adjoining field, were piled together, and entirely consumed by fire. Some of the names of this adventurous company have been handed down to us. Among them we find the name of Chaplain Andrew Hunter, the subjeet of this sketch*.

After the war, Brother Hunter became a Chaplain in the Navy, and died at Washington, in February, 1823, at the age of seventy-five years.

Captain Aaron Ogden, the Junior Warden, was born at Elizabethtown, on the 3d of December, 1756, and was graduated at Nassau Hall, Princeton, in 1773. He received a commission in the Spring of 1777, in the First New Jersey Regiment, and continued in that service till the close of the war. He took part in many of the prominent engagements of that conflict, among which were the battles of Brandywine and Monmouth, in 1778, and the battle of Springfield, New Jersey, in 1780. He enjoyed the confidence of General Washington, and was entrusted by him with responsible and delicate commissions. He afterwards accompanied Lafayette in his campaign in Virginia, and was present at the siege of Yorktown, where his gallant conduct won great commendation.†

After the war, Captain Ogden devoted himself to the profession of the law and acquired a high position at the Bar of his native state. He was the recipient of several honorable and

* Field's Provincial Courts of New Jersey.

† Hayden's "Washington and his Masonic Compeers."

responsible positions at the hands of his fellow citizens, and in 1812 he was elected Governor of New Jersey. He died in 1839, at the age of eighty-three years.

There is no record, so far as known, of the time or place, when and where either Chaplain Hunter or Captain Ogden was made a Mason.

Thus has been collected, and is here presented, all the information which diligent research has been able to furnish, with reference to Masonry in New Jersey prior to 1786. The sketch has proved to be, as its compiler anticipated, little more than a skeleton. The leading facts herein stated are gathered from documentary records, and are, it is thought, reliable. The absence of the records and minutes of the subordinate Lodges, extracts from which would have added interest to the sketch, is greatly to be regretted. That many of such records, and especially those of No. 10, are still in existence, in some old garret or in some forgotten nook or corner, the compiler has no doubt. It is hoped that the presentation of this sketch, and its manifest insufficiency, may induce further research and eventuate in additional information.

In closing this sketch, the compiler begs to acknowledge his obligations to Bro. Sidney Hayden, and to his "Washington and his Masonic Compeers," (a work of great research and interest) for valuable information; and to the Grand Secretaries of Pennsylvania, New York and Connecticut, for fraternal courtesies in connection herewith.

GRAND LODGE OF NEW JERSEY.

New Brunswick, A. C. 1786, A. M. 5786.

Pursuant to notice given for that purpose, a Convention of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey was this day holden, at the city of New Brunswick, for the purpose of establishing a Grand Lodge in the said State, when the following instrument was drawn up and unanimously agreed upon and signed by the members of the said Convention, to wit:

STATE OF NEW JERSEY, IN AMERICA.

New Brunswick, December 18th, 5786.

The underwritten, being Master Masons, as every of them find upon strict trial and due examination, and residing in the State of New Jersey, taking into consideration the propriety and necessity of forming a Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, do hereby unanimously nominate and elect the following Master Masons to the several offices following, to wit:

The Hon. DAVID BREARLEY, Esq., Chief Justice of New Jersey—Right Worshipful Grand Master.

The Hon. ROBERT LETTIS HOOPER, Vice President of New Jersey—Deputy Grand Master.

WILLIAM LEDDLE, Esq., late High Sheriff of Morris—Senior Grand Warden.

DANIEL MARSH, Esq., Representative in the Assembly of New Jersey—Junior Grand Warden.

JOHN NOBLE CUMMING, Esq., late Colonel in the Army of the United States—Grand Secretary.

MASKELL EWING, Jun., Esq., Clerk of the General Assembly of New Jersey—Deputy Grand Secretary.

JOSHUA CORSHON, Esq., High Sheriff of Hunterdon—Grand Treasurer.

To continue in said several offices till the Anniversary of St. John the Evangelist, which will be in the year of Masonry, 5787, on which day the officers of the Grand Lodge shall be elected, or continue in office till

others are elected, the said Grand Lodge and their successors to be a Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, to be called and known by the name of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, and to exercise the powers and duties of a Grand Lodge, in as full and ample a manner as any Grand Lodge in the world.

And we the underwritten, do hereby solemnly promise and engage to support the said Grand Lodge to the utmost of our power, and also to deliver up and cause to be delivered up to the said Grand Lodge, upon their being installed, all warrants and dispensations for Lodges in our possession under other jurisdictions, hereby authorizing the said Grand Lodge and their successors to form as well, rules and regulations for the government of the said Grand Lodge, as the By-Laws for the Lodges constituted by the said Grand Lodge and their successors, with the assistance of the representatives of the several Lodges under the jurisdiction of the said Grand Lodge. The By-Laws of every Lodge to be in all things the same; *Provided always*, that every Lodge shall have the privilege of appointing the time and place of their meeting.

Subscribed,

WILLIAM McKISSACK,

Master of Lodge No. 10, as by the warrant constituting said Lodge, and filed herewith, will appear.

MEMBERS OF SAID LODGE.

JOHN TAYLOR, Senior Warden,
JOHN STEPHENSON, Junior Warden,
SILAS STILES, Senior Deacon,
ELISHA TAYLOR, Junior Deacon,
WILLIAM LEDDELL, Past Master,

J. Corshon,	John Armstrong,	Alexander Kirkpatrick,
Thomas Gardner,	Robert Gaston,	Thomas Bullman,
Isaac Pierson,	Stanton Latham,	Peter Davis,
Barnabas Murphy.		

The several persons who signed this association, were present at the Convention:

James Hude, of Lodge 190, as by dispensation filed herewith.

John Richmond, of the same Lodge.

Patrick Dennis, of St. John's Lodge, No 2, of Philadelphia, as by certificate produced.

Moses Ogden, of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, N. J., as by examination.

Daniel Marsh, " " " 2, N. Y., " "

J. N. Cumming, " " " 19, Penn'a, " "

Wm. Tuttle, " " " 8, N. Y., " "

Ephraim Martin, by examination.

Joseph Bloomfield, P. M. of Lodge No. 25, Bristol, Pennsylvania, as by certificate.

Maskell Ewing, of Lodge No. 25, Bristol, Pennsylvania, as by certificate.

The following persons came forward after the Convention and subscribed their names:

John How, of Lodge No. 32, Burlington, as by examination.
Bethanath Hodgkinson, of Lodge No. 32, Burlington, as by examination.
James Craft, " " 32, " " "
Samuel Bullis, P. M. " " 32, " " "
John Hollinshead, of Lodge 19, Pennsylvania, as by certificate.
William Peter Sprague, P. M. of Duke of Athol's Lodge, No. 74, as by certificate.
F. Wm. Shippen, of Lodge No. 9, Pennsylvania, as per examination.

We the underwritten, do agree to the above. Witness our hands, this thirteenth day of January, 5787:

Ebenezer Blatchley, Junior Past Master of Lodge No. 10.
Richard Lloyd, of Lodge No. 1, City of Albany.
James Taylor, of Lodge No. 10, Pennsylvania.
Jonathan Rhea, of Lodge No. 19, Thomas Proctor, Master.
Benjamin Freeman, Jr., of Lodge No. 10, Pennsylvania.
John Dennis, of Lodge No. 1, N. Y.
John Brittin, of Lodge No. 10, Pennsylvania.
Hezekiah Stites Woodruff, of Lodge No. 10, Pennsylvania.
John Da Van, of Lodge No. 1, N. Y.
Thomas Reading.
James Da Van, of Lodge No. 25, Liverpool, England.
Daniel Pierson, of Lodge No. 5, Boston.
Francis Hadley, of Lodge No. 10, Pennsylvania.
Oliver Barnet, of Lodge No. 10, Pennsylvania.
Robert L. Hooper, of Lodge No. 2.
Aaron Dickinson Woodruff, of Lodge No. 25, Bristol Pennsylvania, as by certificate.

JANUARY SESSION, 1787.

NEW BRUNSWICK, 30th Jan., A. C. 1787, A. M. 5787.

Pursuant to notice given, by order of the Grand Master elect, a Convention of Free and Accepted Masons this day met in the city of New Brunswick for the purpose of installing the Grand Officers and opening of the Grand Lodge.

PRESENT.

THE HON. DAVID BREARLEY, Grand Master.
THE HON. ROBERT L. HOOPER, Deputy Grand Master.
WM. LEDDELL, ESQ., Senior Grand Warden.
DANIEL MARSH, ESQ., Junior Grand Warden.
JOHN N. CUMMING, ESQ., Grand Secretary.
MASKELL EWING, ESQ., Deputy Grand Sec'y.
JOSHUA CORSHON, ESQ., Grand Treasurer.

William McKissack,	Isaac Pierson,	Francis Hadley,
Thomas Gardner,	Jonathan Rhea,	Daniel Pierson,
John Stephenson,	James Hude,	James Da Van,
John Armstrong,	John Da Van,	Hezekiah S. Woodruff,
John Taylor,	James Taylor,	Elisha Taylor,
John Brittin,	Alex. Kirkpatrick,	John Dennis,
Thomas Bullman,	Benj. Freeman,	Patrick Dennis,
Peter Davis,	Richard Lloyd,	Ebenezer Blachley,
Oliver Barnet,	William Tuttle,	Moses Ogden,
James Pitney,	Thomas Reading,	Ebenezer Drake,

Barnabas Murphy, Tyler, all Master Masons.

Whereupon a Master Masons' Lodge was opened in due form.

The proceedings of the late Convention were read by the Secretary, after which the Grand Master elect, was in the usual manner, conducted into the Lodge, honorably seated in the chair, and regularly installed Grand Master of Masons for New Jersey.

The Deputy Grand Master, the Senior Grand Warden, the Junior Grand Warden, the Grand Secretary, the Deputy Grand Secretary and the Grand Treasurer, were all likewise regularly installed, and took their seats accordingly.

An address was then delivered by the Grand Master.

Agreeable to petition from sundry Master Masons in Newark, Elizabethtown, Bedminster, Morristown and Monmouth, to the Grand Lodge, the Right Worshipful Grand Master was pleased to grant dispensations for the term of three months, at which term warrants will issue, to wit: To Brother Moses Ogden, for holding a Lodge in Newark; to Brother William McKissack, for Bedminster, in the County of Somerset; the Honorable Brother Elias Dayton, for Elizabethtown; to Brother John

Jacob Faesch, for Morristown; and Brother Jonathan Rhea, for Monmouth.

It is ordered that in the Lodges under this jurisdiction, the sum of twelve dollars be paid for initiation and one dollar to the Tyler, six dollars to be paid at the time of petitioning and the remainder, on being entered an apprentice. But if a special Lodge is called to initiate, then the applicant is also to pay the expenses of the night.

The Grand Lodge adjourned to Monday, the second day of April, next, then to meet at Trenton.

MASKELL EWING, *D. G. S.*

APRIL SESSION, 1787.

TRENTON, 2d April, A. C. 1787, A. M. 5787.

Agreeable to adjournment at the last sitting, deputies from the several Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge attended and a Master Masons' Lodge was opened in due form.

PRESENT.

THE R. W. DAVID BREARLEY, Grand Master.
DANIEL MARSH, ESQ., Jun. Grand Warden.
JOHN N. CUMMING, ESQ., Grand Secretary.
MASKELL EWING, ESQ., Deputy Grand Sec'y.
JOSHUA CORSHON, ESQ., Treasurer.

John Stevenson, J. W., Morristown.

William McKissack, M., James Henry, J. W., Bedminster.

Jonathan Rhea, M., Richard Lloyd, S. W., Thomas Leland, J. W., Monmouth.

Aaron D. Woodruff, Esq.,	Alexander Vass,	Barnes H. Smock,
Anthony Reckless,	Simeon Bayley,	Thomas Cullen.

A motion was made that the sum of ten pounds should be paid by every Lodge to the Grand Lodge for a warrant. The question being put, it was carried in the affirmative.

A motion was made that every member of a constituted Lodge under this Grand Lodge, shall pay one shilling quarterly to the Charity Fund of the same, to which the Lodge agreed.

A motion was made that every Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Lodge, for every member initiated, pay to the Grand Lodge, at their next meeting thereafter, the sum of five shillings, and being put, it was carried in the affirmative.

Agreed, that the Lodge at Bedminster, in the county of Somerset, be Lodge No. 1, and that the other Lodges ballot for their numbers, which being done, Newark drew No. 2; Monmouth, No. 3; Morristown, No. 4; Elizabethtown, No. 5., whereupon,

Ordered, That the Lodge at Bedminster be Lodge No. 1; Newark, No. 2; Monmouth, No. 3; Morristown, No. 4; and Elizabethtown, No. 5.

Ordered, That the several dispensations issued 31st January last, to the Lodge at Elizabethtown, Bedminster and Morristown, Monmouth and Newaak, for three months, be enlarged to the further term of three months.

The dispensation issued 31st January last, to the Lodge at Elizabethtown, Bedminster and Morristown, were returned.

Ordered, That a dispensation be issued to Brother William McKissack, at Somerset, Brother John Da Van, for Master of the Lodge at Elizabethtown, Brother William Tuthill, at Morris.

The Grand Lodge adjourned to meet at Trenton, the 3d day of July next.

JULY SESSION, 1787.

TRENTON, July 3, A. C. 1787, A. M. 5787.

Agreeable to adjournment at the last sitting, the Grand Lodge met, and a Master Masons Lodge was opened in due form.

PRESENT.

THE W. ROBERT LETTIS HOOPER, Deputy Grand Master, in the chair.

MAJOR RICHARD LLOYD, Sen. Grand Warden, p. t.
DANIEL MARSH, ESQ., Jun. Grand Warden.
JOHN N. CUMMING, ESQ., Grand Secretary.
MASKELL EWING, ESQ., Deputy Grand Sec'y.
JOSHUA CORSHON, ESQ., Treasurer.

Brother John Cumming, Newark Lodge, No. 2.

Brother Jonathan Rhea and Brother Richard Lloyd, Monmouth Lodge, No. 3.

Aaron D. Woodruff, Esq., Anthony Reckless, Thomas Bullman, John Hollinshead, Esq.

Application having been made by petition to this Grand Lodge by the members of a Lodge held under a dispensation in the county of Monmouth, for a warrant to be issued to Brother Jonathan Rhea Esq., Master, Major Richard Lloyd, S. W., and Mr. Thomas Leland, J. W.

Ordered, That a warrant be issued agreeably to the above application, for a Lodge to be hereafter held in the county of Monmouth, to be distinguished by the name of Trinity Lodge, No. 3; Brother Rhea having paid the Treasurer the sum of £10, 5s, 0d, agreeable to the rule, for a warrant and one member who has been initiated.

Application having been made by petition to this Grand Lodge by the members of a Lodge held under a dispensation in Newark, in the county of Essex, for a warrant to be issued to Brother Moses Ogden, Master, James H. Maxwell, S. W., and Jeremiah Brewen, J. W.,

Ordered, That a warrant do issue, agreeably to the above application, for a Lodge to be hereafter held at Newark, in the county of Essex, to be distinguished by the name of St. John's Lodge, No. 2; Brother Cumming, in behalf of the said Lodge, having paid the Treasurer the sum of £10, 6s, 0d, for the warrant, one initiation, and one shilling to the Charity Fund, being his own dues.

Brother Cumming returned the dispensation which was issued the 31st January last, to Brother Moses Ogden, of Newark, which was ordered to be cancelled, and cancelled accordingly.

Brother Rhea returned the dispensation which was issued to him the 2d April last, which was cancelled per order.

The Worshipful Deputy Grand Master laid before the Lodge a letter to him from the Right Worshipful David Brearley, Grand Master, now in the Federal Convention at Philadelphia, apologizing for his non-attendance, which was read and filed.

The D. G. M. laid before the Lodge a letter from Brother William McKissack, praying that a warrant may be sent to him agreeably to a petition formerly presented to the Grand Lodge; his dispensation not being returned and no deputation attending.

Ordered, That a warrant be made out agreeably to the said petition, and delivered to Brother Corshon; that he deliver the same to Brother McKissack or his order, upon receipt of the dispensation and dues therefor, agreeably to the order and rule.

The Worshipful laid before the Lodge a letter from Brother William Leddell, S. W., apologizing for his non-attendance, which was deemed satisfactory.

No representation having appeared from Lodge No. 4, and a petition having been presented for a warrant in April last,

Ordered, That the warrant be made out and deposited with the Treasurer, to be delivered to Brother William Tuttle or his order, upon the receipt of the dues and the dispensation heretofore granted.

The Lodge adjourned until to-morrow morning, 8 of the clock.

TRENTON, July 4, A. C. 1787, A. M. 5787.

The Lodge met agreeably to adjournment. Same brothers present as yesterday; also Brothers General David Forman, Jeremiah Brewen, Almarin Brooks, Joseph Bloomfield, Esq.

A Master Masons' Lodge was opened in due form.

A petition was presented signed by a number of Master Masons in the county of Bergen, and town of Hackensack, praying that a warrant may be issued to Robert Neil as Master of a Lodge in said town, which was ordered to be filed and a committee consisting of Brothers Marsh, Moses Ogden and Jeremiah Brewen, appointed to enquire into the character of the petitioners and report to the Grand Lodge at their next sitting.

The Lodge adjourned until 6 o'clock this evening.

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6 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge met. Present as in the morning.

The Lodge proceeded to the installation of Brother Jonathan Rhea, Esq., as Master of Lodge No. 3, to be held in the county of Monmouth, which was performed with the usual solemnities.

The Lodge was closed to meet on Thursday next preceding St. John the Evangelist's day, which will be in December next, at the city of New Brunswick.

DECEMBER SESSION, 1787.

NEW BRUNSWICK, Dec. 20, A. C. 1787, A. M. 5787.

Agreeably to adjournment at the last sitting, the Grand Lodge met and a Master Masons Lodge was opened in due form.

PRESENT.

THE HON. W. ROBERT L. HOOPER, Deputy Grand Master in the chair.

WILLIAM LEDDLE, ESQ., Senior Grand Warden.

DR. WILLIAM McKISSACK, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.

JOHN N. CUMMING, ESQ., Grand Secretary.

John Porter, Somerset Lodge, No. 1.

Moses Ogden, Jeremiah Brewen, James H. Maxwell, Newark Lodge, No. 2.

Jonathan Rhea, Esq., Gen. David Forman, Trinity Lodge, No. 3.

William Tuthill, Morristown Lodge, No. 4.

Aaron Dickinson Woodruff, Esq., Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

Walton White, Esq., Archibald Mercer, Esq., Mr. David Aird.

Application having been made by petition to this Grand Lodge by the associated bretheren of New Barbadoes, in the county of Bergen, and the report of the committee of the last sitting recommending the same,

Ordered, That a warrant be issued agreeably to the above application, for a Lodge to be hereafter held in the county of Bergen, to be distinguished and known by the name of the Union Lodge, No. 6, under the following officers, to wit: Brother Robert Neil, Esq., Master, William M. Bell, Senior Warden, Nehemiah Wade, Esq., Counsellor at Law, Junior Warden, and that the Grand Secretary deliver the said warrant to Brother Robert Neil upon receipt of the fees therefor, agreeably to the rules made for that purpose.

Application having been made by petition to this Grand Lodge by the members of a Lodge held under a dispensation in Trenton, in the county of Hunterdon, for a warrant to be issued to Brother Aaron Dickinson Woodruff, Esq,, Master, Thomas Bullman, Senior Warden and Anthony Reckless, Junior Warden, the dispensation being cancelled,

Ordered, That a warrant do issue agreeably to the above application, for a Lodge to be hereafter held in Trenton, in the county of Hunterdon, to be distinguished by the name of Trenton Lodge, No. 5, and that a warrant be delivered to Brother Corshon, to be delivered to Brother Woodruff or his order, upon receipt of the fees, agreeably to order and rule.

A petition signed by Brother David Aird and others, praying that a warrant may be granted to David Aird and others mentioned in said petition,

Ordered, That Brothers John Taylor, Joshua Corshon and Richard Lloyd Esq., or any two of them, be a committee to enquire into the character of the persons mentioned in said petition and to enquire whether the warrant under which Captain Bray and others mentioned in the petition were made, be a regular warranted Lodge.

Ordered, That a copy of the above be transmitted to the committee, and also a copy to Brother Aird.

The Grand Lodge proceeded agreeably to the Constitution, to elect Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following Grand Officers were chosen:

THE HON. DAVID BREARLEY, Grand Master.
THE HON. ROBERT L. HOOPER, Deputy Grand Master.
WILLIAM LEDDLE, ESQ., Sen. Grand Warden.
COL. JOHN TAYLOR, Jun. Grand Warden.
JOHN N. CUMMING, ESQ., Grand Secretary.
MASKELL EWING, ESQ., Deputy Grand Secretary.
ARCHIBALD MERCER, ESQ., Grand Treasurer.

Ordered, That Joshua Corshon, Esq., our late worthy Grand Treasurer, deliver up on the 23d day of June next, at New Brunswick, the vouchers and money that may then remain in his hands, to Archibald Mercer, Esq., Grand Treasurer.

Ordered, That a grand procession of the Lodges of New Jersey in Grand Lodge, do assemble at New Brunswick, on the 24th of June next, and that Brother Joseph Bloomfield and Maskell Ewing, Esqrs., do invite our worthy and Reverend Brother Hunter to give us a sermon on that day, and if he cannot attend, that they request the same from Mr. Monteath, and if he declines, they invite Dr. Smith, of Princeton, and if he declines, that they may invite who they may think proper.

Ordered, That a copy of this resolution with an urgent request, be transmitted to the Masters of the different Lodges and that the procession be

advertised in the public papers of New Jersey, at least one month previous to the 24th of June, being John the Baptist's day.

The Lodge was closed to meet on Monday, the 24th of June next, at White Hall, in the city of New Brunswick.

JUNE SESSION, 1788.

NEW BRUNSWICK, June 23, A. C. 1788, A. M. 5788.

Agreeably to adjournment at the last sitting, the Grand Lodge met and was opened in due form.

PRESENT.

THE W. HON. DAVID BREARLEY, Grand Master.
THE HON. ROBERT L. HOOPER, Deputy Grand Master.
WILLIAM LEDDLE, ESQ., Sen. Grand Warden.
COL. JOHN TAYLOR, Jun. Grand Warden.
JOHN N. CUMMING, ESQ., Grand Secretary.
JOSHUA CORSHON, ESQ., G. Treasurer, p. t.

William McKissack, Master, Somerset Lodge, No. 1.
Moses Ogden, Master, Newark Lodge, No. 2.
Jonathan Rhea, Esq., Master, Monmouth Lodge, No. 3.
John Stephenson, Morristown Lodge, No. 4.
Aaron Dickinson Woodruff, Esq., Master, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
Robert Neil, Esq., Master, Hackensack Lodge, No. 6.
David Aird, Master, Kingwood Lodge, No. 7.

BRETHREN ADMITTED AS VISITORS.

SOMERSET LODGE.

John Armstrong, Elisha Taylor, Oliver Barnet, Esq.,
William Linn, Esq., Joseph Henry, John Porter.

NEWARK LODGE.

James H. Maxwell, Jeremiah Brewen, William Burnet, Esq.,
John Reading, William Kearsey, ——Kemble, Tyler.

MONMOUTH LODGE.

Richard Lloyd, Esq., Barnes Smock, James English,
Elisha Lawrence, David Rhea, Gen. David Forman,
Thomas Barber, Benajah Osman, James Rogers, Esq.,
Benjamin Rogers, William Lloyd, A. Lane, Tyler.

TRENTON LODGE.

Rev. William Frazier,	Aaron Dunham, Esq.,	Anthony Reckless,
Thomas Bullman,	Ponteus Delare Stelle,	William Tindall.

HACKENSACK LODGE.

Nehemiah Wade, Esq.,	John Van Buren,	Archibald Campbell,
Samuel Reading,	Francis Robeneau.	

KINGWOOD LODGE.

Jonathan Woolverton,	Daniel Bray,	Elijah Rittenhouse,
John Snyder.		

VISITING BRETHTEN.

John Devan,	James Heede, Esq.,	John Dennis, Esq.,
James Giles, Esq.,	Samuel Seeley,	——Blakeley,
Samuel Hay,	Daniel Marsh, Esq.,	John Watt,
John Richmond,	——Hardenbrook,	Hon. John C. Symmes,
Garret Sickles,	Robert Tingley.	

Applications being made by two petitions, one signed David Aird, Jonathan Woolverton and David Bray, and one signed by Thomas Anderson, Samuel Kennedy, John Holmes, &c., praying that warrants do issue to them for holding Lodges,

Ordered, That a warrant do issue to David Aird, Master, Jonathan Woolverton, Senior Warden, and Daniel Bray, Junior Warden, for a Lodge to be hereafter held in the township of Kingwood and county of Hunterdon, to be known and distinguished by the name of Unity Lodge, No. 7, and according to order the warrant was delivered to Brother Aird, and the dues received, agreeably to order and rule.

Ordered, That a warrant do issue agreeably to petition, for a Lodge to be hereafter held in Newtown, in the county of Sussex, to Thomas Anderson, Esq., Master, Samuel Kennedy, Senior Warden, and John Holmes, Junior Warden, which Lodge is to be known and distinguished by the name of Harmony Lodge, No. 8.

No blank warrants being on hand, a dispensation was given until the warrant be made out.

The Worshipful laid before the Lodge a letter from Brother Maskell Ewing, Esq., Deputy Grand Secretary of this Lodge, apologizing for his non-attendance, which was read and deemed satisfactory.

Ordered, That a committee, consisting of Brothers Devan, Woodruff and Cumming, meet to-morrow morning, at 7 o'clock, and make out the order of procession.

Ordered, That the dues from the different Lodges be paid on to-morrow morning, at 7 o'clock to Brother Corshon, and to be accounted for by him to the Grand Treasurer.

The Lodge adjourned till to-morrow morning, at 9 o'clock.

June 24, 5788.

The Lodge met agreeably to adjournment.

A letter from the Committee of Correspondence appointed by the Grand Lodge of the state of Virginia, desiring a friendly communication, from time to time, of such matters as may be for the general good of the Craft, was read.

Ordered, That Maskell Ewing, Esq., Deputy Grand Secretary of this Lodge, Brothers Aaron Dickinson Woodruff and Aaron Dunham, Esq., be a Committee of Correspondence, and that they write to the several Grand Lodges of the United States of America, recommending a friendly communication, from time to time, of such matters as may be conducive to the honor and prosperity of the Craft.

Ordered, That the said letter be filed, and that the said Committee of Correspondence answer the same.

Ordered, That the procession recommended by the committee, and now before the Lodge, be adopted, and commence at 12 o'clock.

The Lodge adjourned until 8 o'clock, P. M.

The Lodge met agreeably to adjournment.

Ordered, That a committee, consisting of Brothers John Dennis, William Leddle and John Taylor, do wait on the Rev. Mr. Monteath, and return him the thanks of this Lodge for his very excellent sermon, preached this day, at the particular request of the Grand Lodge, and that a copy of the sermon be requested for publication.

A Stewards' Lodge being ordered, the Lodge closed in due form to meet at Newark, in the county of Essex, on Tuesday, the 30th of December next.

DECEMBER SESSION, 1788.

NEWARK, Dec. 30, A. C. 1788, A. M. 5788.

Areeably to adjournment at the last sitting, the Grand Lodge met, and a Master Masons' Lodge was opened in due form.

PRESENT.

HON. & R. W. DAVID BREARLEY, ESQ., G. Master.
WM. LEDDELL ESQ., Sen. G. Warden.
JAS. H. MAXWELL, ESQ., Jun. G. Warden, p. t.
JOHN N. CUMMING, ESQ., G. Secretary.
MASKELL EWING, ESQ., Deputy G. Secretary.
JOSHUA CORSHON, ESQ., Past G. Treasurer.
STANTON LATHERN, Senior Deacon.
FRANCIS ROBINOE, Junior Deacon.

No representation from Somerset Lodge, No. 1.

Moses Ogden, Master, Dr. William Burnet, Jr., Junior Warden, James H. Maxwell, John Gifford, Newark Lodge, No. 2.

Jonathan Rhea, Esq., Master, Trinity Lodge, No. 3.

Joseph Morgan, Master, Thomas Kinny, Senior Warden, Morristown Lodge, No. 4.

Aaron Dickinson Woodruff, Esq., Master, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

Dr. John Van Bueren, Master, Capt. William Bell, Senior Warden, Nehemiah Wade, Esq., Junior Warden, Union Lodge, No. 6.

Capt. Daniel Bray, Senior Warden, Kingwood Lodge, No. 7.

No representation from Harmony Lodge, No. 8.

PAST MASTERS—Daniel Marsh, Esq., Robert Niel, Esq., John Davan, Esq., Daniel Pierson.

Hon. Jona. Dayton, Esq., Capt. Aaron Ogden, Mr. Ezekiel Ball, Mr. Joseph King, Mr. Joshua Seeley.

The Honorable and Right Worshipful David Brearley, Esq.. Chief Justice of New Jersey, was re-appointed, unanimously, Grand Master.

The Honorable Robert L. Hooper, Esq., was appointed by the Right Worshipful Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master.

Brother William Leddell, Esq., begged that some other person might be appointed to take the seat as Senior Warden. Thereupon,

John Noble Cumming, Esq. was unanimously apppointed Senior Grand Warden.

John Beatty, Esq. was unanimously appointed Junior Grand Warden.

Joshua Corshon, Esq. was unanimously appointed Treasurer to the Grand Lodge.

Maskell Ewing, Esq. was unanimously appointed Secretary to this Lodge.

The Right Worshipful Grand Master laid before the Lodge a report from Hiram Lodge, No. 4, stating: A complaint against Dr. William Leddell, for assaulting Joseph King, a member of that Lodge, in the house where the Lodge sat, upon which charge the said Lodge proceeded to hear the allegations of the parties, and after considering impartially thereon, it was agreed that the said William Leddell be suspended the said Lodge; which charge being read, the said William Leddell attended and informed the Lodge that he desired to appeal and be heard, to justify himself against the said order of Lodge No. 4. Whereupon,

The Lodge proceeded to hear the parties, and thereupon,

Resolved, That the proceedings of the said Lodge No. 4, are approved by this Lodge, and that the said Lodge be requested to continue the said suspension until the said Dr. Leddell shall appear to them to be worthy of membership.

Daniel Pierson, formerly a member of Hiram Lodge, No. 4, presented his appeal to this Lodge from the sentence of expulsion made in the said Lodge No. 4, but it appearing that the said Lodge had no notice of the appeal, therefore,

Ordered, That it be referred to the next meeting of this Lodge, and that, in the meantime, he serve the said Hiram Lodge, No. 4, with due notice.

Resolved, That no person be admitted to vote as a representive from any Lodge in this state until the dues of the Lodge of which he is a member, be fully paid; neither shall any person be admitted to vote as a representative from any Lodge, unless he produce a copy of the minutes of his appointment, taken from the minutes of the Lodge of which he is a member, and certified by the Secretary.

On motion,

Ordered, That Brothers John Beatty, Maskell Ewing and Aaron Dickinson Woodruff, be appointed a committee of this Lodge, to make out and report at the next meeting a Code of By-Laws for the same.

On motion,

Ordered, That the officers of all private Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, shall, at each half yearly meeting, deliver an exact list of the names, titles and occupations of the officers and members, to the Secretary of the Grand Lodge, and the representatives of each Lodge, together with the usual times and places of meeting.

A motion was made and seconded, that no Mason be admitted to vote in Grand Lodge, unless he be a representative from a Lodge, a Past Master, or one who was a Master Mason, and who was present at the Convention for constituting and establishing this Grand Lodge, to which the Lodge Agreed.

The Worshipful Grand Master, in his place, delivered an address to the Lodge, a copy of which was reqested to be furnished the Grand Secretary, to which he agreed.

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary employ a clerk to make a fair copy of the said address, to be forwarded by him to the Master of each Lodge under this jurisdiction, and lay the expense thereof before the Lodge, for payment.

The Lodge closed in due form to meet at Trenton, on Friday, the third day of July next.

JULY' SESSION, 1789.

TRENTON, July 3, 5789.

Agreeably to adjournment at the last sitting, the Lodge met and a Master Masons Lodge was opened in due form.

PRESENT.

HON. & R. W. DAVID BREARLEY, ESQ., G. Master.
DR. WM. McKISSACK, ESQ., Sen. G. Warden, p. t.
JAMES H. MAXWELL, Jun. G. Warden, p. t.
MASKELL EWING, G. Secretary.
SAMUEL W. STOCKTON, ESQ., Senior Deacon.
AARON DUNHAM, ESQ., Junior Deacon.

William McKissack, Master, Solomon Lodge, No. 1.

James H. Maxwell, Master, Jeremiah Brewen, Senior Warden, John N. Cumming, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

Jonathan Rhea, Master, David Forman, Junior Warden, James R. English, Treasurer, Trinity Lodge, No. 3.

Thomas Kinney, Senior Warden, Hiram Lodge, No. 4.

Aaron D. Woodruff, Master, Thomas Bullman, Senior Warden, Isaac DeCou, Junior Warden, Trenton Lodge, No 5.

Jacob Snyder, Secretary, Unity Lodge, No. 7.

Thomas Anderson, Master, John Holmes, Junior Warden, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.

PAST MASTER—Joseph Bloomfield, Esq.

William Lowrey, Esq., Sheriff Hunterdon Co., Dr. Nicholas Belleville, Charles Tompkins, Richard Howell, Maj. Benjamin Ledger.

The Worshipful Robert Lettice Hooper, Esq., who was appointed Deputy Grand Master at the last meeting, now attended and was installed and in due form conducted to and placed in the chair as Deputy Grand Master of Masons in New Jersey.

John Noble Cumming, appointed at the last meeting, Senior Grand Warden, now attended, was installed in due form, conducted to and placed in the chair as Senior Grand Warden of this Lodge.

Dr. John Beatty, who was appointed at the last meeting, Junior Grand Warden, now attended, was installed in due form, conducted to and placed in the chair as Junior Grand Warden of this Lodge.

William McKissick, Master of Lodge No. 1, made an apology for that Lodge not being represented at the last Communication, which was deemed satisfactory.

Thomas Anderson, Master of Lodge No. 8, made the like apology for the Lodge over which he presides, which was also deemed satisfactory.

Ordered, That the Secretary make a note in the margin of the minutes, where the original Association is recorded, showing who were present at the original formation of this Grand Lodge.

On motion,

Ordered, That Brothers Jonathan Rhea, Aaron D. Woodruff and Gen. David Forman, be appointed a committee of this Lodge to inspect the Treasurer's accounts, settle the same and make report this afternoon.

Brother Aaron D. Woodruff, from the Committee of Correspondence appointed at New Brunswick, June 23, 5788, reported that the Committee had written letters to several of the Grand Lodges in the United States and had received an answer thereto from the Grand Lodge of Georgia, which he read and laid before the Lodge.

Ordered, That the same be filed.

The Lodge adjourned 'till 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Lodge met.

Brother Aaron D. Woodruff, of the committee appointed in the forenoon, reported that they had examined the accounts of the Treasurer, and that he had stated to them that for want of returns from the Lodges, he had not been enabled to state the accounts with the individual Lodges, whereupon,

On motion,

Ordered, That each and every Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, do within forty days, make an exact and particular return of the members of their respective Lodges since the 30th of January, 5787, to the Secretary and Treasurer of this Lodge, noting those who had been entered and the time of their initiation, those that have joined the Lodge that were Ancient Masons, the time of their admission, and such as have since-declined or are not now atttending, that the Treasurer may thereby be en abled to open an account against each individual Lodge and thereby ascertain the dues from them, and that the Secretary may be enabled to make a like account to check the accounts of the Treasurer, and that the said Lodges do make a like return half-yearly.

On motion,

Ordered, That the words *Code of By-Laws* in the 4th line of the 18th page, be expunged, and the words *General Regulations* inserted in their place.

The Right Worshipful Grand Master laid before the Lodge an extract from the minutes of Trenton Lodge, No. 5, setting forth that they had appointed a committee to prepare a room for the accommodation of the Grand Lodge.

Ordered, That the thanks of this Lodge be returned to Lodge No. 5, for their polite attention to the Grand Lodge.

The Lodge closed to meet at Freehold, in the county of Monmouth, on the first Tuesday in January next.

JANUARY SESSION, 1790.

FREEHOLD, January 5, 5790.

Agreeably to adjournment at the last sitting, the Grand Lodge met, and a Master Masons Lodge was opened in due form.

PRESENT.

HON. & W. JOHN BEATTY, J. G. W., who presided as Grand Master, p. t.

DR. WILLIAM McKISSICK, Grand Senior Warden, p. t.

JONATHAN RHEA, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.

AARON DUNHAM, Grand Treasurer, p. t.

AARON D. WOODRUFF, Grand Secretary, p. t.

DAVID RHEA, Grand Senior Deacon, p. t.

RICHARD LLOYD, Grand Junior Deacon, p. t.

Dr. William McKissick, Col. John Taylor, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.

No deputies attended from St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

Jonathan Rhea, Master, David Forman, Senior Warden, Elisha Lawrence, Junior Warden, Trinity Lodge, No. 3.

No deputies attended from Hiram Lodge, No. 4.

A. D. Woodruff, Master, Richard Howell, Senior Warden, Aaron Dunham, Junior Warden, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

No deputies attended from Union Lodge, No. 6.

William Lowrey, Dr. Aaron Furman, Jonathan Doan, Unity Lodge, No. 7.

Thomas Anderson, Master, John Holmes, Senior Warden, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.

PAST MASTERS—Thomas Bullman, Thomas Leland, John Dennis.

James English, Shelly Arnett, Anthony Tayler,
—— Bond.

A letter from Maskell Ewing, Grand Secretary, was read, apologizing for his non-attendance, which was accepted accordingly.

The Secretary reported to the Grand Lodge that returns had been received only from Lodges Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5 and 8.

Whereupon, on motion,

Ordered, That the Secretary be instructed to write to the Lodges who have neglected to send in their returns, agreeably to the rule of the last sitting, and request them to do the same without delay.

Brother Woodruff, from the committee appointed to report the General Regulations of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, reported the same, which were read.

Whereupon, on motion,

Ordered, That the same be re-committed to the said committee, to make report at the next Grand Lodge, and that, in the meantime, each Lodge

be, on their request, furnished with a copy of the same, as reported, paying the expense of such copy.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, and the Honorable and Worshipful David Brearley was unanimously re-appointed Grand Master; and not being present, was duly installed by proxy—Brother Thomas Bullman being deputed for that purpose, and honorably seated in the chair.

The appointment of Deputy Grand Master was not made, being submitted to the Grand Master.

Col. John Noble Cumming was re-appointed Senior Grand Warden.

The Honorable Dr. John Beatty was unanimously re-appointed Junior Grand Warden.

Maskell Ewing was unanimously re-appointed Grand Secretary.

Aaron Dunham was appointed Grand Treasurer, in the place of Joshua Corshon, who resigned.

A letter from Brother Richard Lloyd, of Trinity Lodge, No. 3, was presented and read, praying a hearing on the decision of Harmony Lodge, No. 8, respecting a dispute between him and Brother Jonathan Willis, a member of said Lodge, and from which decision he had appealed to this Grand Lodge; whereupon,

Ordered, That the appeal be entered, and the hearing of the same be postponed till the next Grand Lodge; and that, in the meantime, Brother Willis be enjoined to suspend all proceedings in the suit at law commenced against Brother Lloyd.

On motion,

Ordered, That a committee of three be appointed to examine the accounts of the late Grand Treasurer, and settle the same; and that the said Grand Treasurer pay forward the balance in his hands to the present Grand Treasurer.

And Brothers Bullman, Woodruff and Howell were accordingly appointed for that purpose.

On motion,

Ordered, That the Tyler be allowed the sum of ten dollars for tyling at this Grand Lodge, and that the Treasurer be directed to pay the same.

The Grand Lodge closed to meet at Trenton, on Tuesday, the sixth day of July next.

JULY SESSION, 1790.

TRENTON, July 6, 5790.

Agreeably to adjournment at the last sitting, the Grand Lodge met, and a Master Mason's Lodge was opened in due form.

PRESENT.

HON. & W. JOHN BEATTY, J. G. W., who took the chair as Grand Master, p. t.
JONATHAN RHEA, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
AARON D. WOODRUFF, Junior G. Warden, p. t.
MASKELL EWING, Grand Secretary.
AARON DUNHAM, Grand Treasurer.
DR. NICH. BELLEVILLE, Senior G. Deacon, p. t.
CHARLES TOMKINS, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.

Brother John N. Cumming being present, and having been appointed at the last meeting Senior Grand Warden, was now installed in due form, and placed in his chair.

Whereupon, as Senior Grand Warden, the Grand Master being absent, he took the place of the Grand Master.

HON. JOHN BEATTY, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
JONATHAN RHEA, ESQ., Junior G. Warden, p. t.

No representative from Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.

Jonathan Rhea, Esq., Anthony F. Taylor, Esq., James Rogers, Esq., Trinity Lodge, No. 3.

No representative appearing from Hiram Lodge, No. 4, with proper credentials, and Brother Morgan attending as a Past Master of that Lodge, took his seat in the Lodge as Past Master.

Aaron D. Woodruff, Master, Richard Howell, Senior Warden, Samuel W. Stockton, Junior Warden, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

No representative from Union Lodge, No. 6.

Dr. Aaron Furman, John Snyder, Kingwood Lodge, No. 7.

Thomas Anderson, Master, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.

PAST MASTERS—Joseph Bloomfield, Esq., Attorney General, Isaac De Cou, Anthony Reckless, Capt. John Douglass.

A letter was laid before the Lodge by Brother Beatty, from Brother Richard Lloyd, of Trinity Lodge, No. 3, informing the Lodge that he is desirous to have the appeal from the decision of Lodge No. 8 withdrawn, the matter in dispute between him and Brother Willis having been amicably settled; which request was allowed accordingly.

Brother Woodruff, from the committee to whom was recommitted the General Regulations of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, reported the same, with sundry amendments; which regulations were read, with the amendments, and being again read by paragraphs, and some time spent thereon,

Ordered, That the further consideration thereof be postponed.

Whereupon the Lodge was called off from labor to refreshment, and agreed to meet at 3 o'clock P. M.

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3 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

Whereupon they resumed the consideration of the report of the committee appointed to report Rules and Regulations, &c.; and having proceeded and agreed to the same by paragraphs, as far as Chap. 6, Sec. 1,

A motion was made by Brother Beatty, and seconded by Brother Ewing, that the blank for the place of meeting for the half-yearly Communication be now left blank, and filled up at the next Communication; and that, in the meantime, the Secretary be directed to write to each and every Lodge, and acquaint them that the said blank will then be filled up by the Grand Lodge.

The whole having been read by paragraphs,

Resolved, That the same be passed. (See Regulations, page 25.)

Ordered, That the Secretary be directed to furnish a fair copy to the printer, and that the same be printed under the direction of the Committee of Correspondence; that 300 copies thereof be struck off, and that he furnish the Master of each Lodge with one copy for the use of the Lodge for each member returned; also one copy to the Grand Lodge.

Ordered, That the Secretary write to Lodges Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6, to send forward to Aaron Dunham, Esq., Grand Treasurer, a list of all their members, from the formation of their Lodge to St. John's Day, June 24th, 5790, with the particular date of the initiation, the time of admission into the Lodge of an ancient Mason, the departure of any, and by the first day of October next ensuing, &c., and that the Secretary furnish a form to each Lodge for that purpose.

The Secretary laid before the Grand Lodge the papers as marked and numbered in the following list:

No. 1. 28th December, 5789. *Resolve* of the Grand Lodge of Georgia: That there ought to be a Federal or Supreme Grand Lodge constituted, to have jurisdiction over the respective Grand and other Lodges throughout the continent, and proposing a Masonic Convention for that purpose; also a resolution of the said Grand Lodge, appointing a Committee of Correspondence, to correspond with the several Lodges in the United States on that subject.

No. 2. May 1, 5790. A letter from the said Committee of Correspondence, signed, on behalf of the committee, by James Jackson, P. G. M., endorsing the above.

No. 3. June 7, 5790. Minute of the Grand Lodge of the State of Pennsylvania, disapproving, as inexpedient and impracticable, the proposal made by the Grand Lodge of Georgia, and proposing, instead thereof, a Convention of Deputies from the several Grand Lodges within the United States, for the purpose of forming a more intimate union, and establishing a regular and permanent intercourse between the several Grand Lodges in the United States; also, a resolution of the said Grand Lodge, appointing a committee to correspond with the several Grand Lodges in the United States on that subject.

No. 4. June 29, 5790. Letter from the Corresponding Committee of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, on the said subject.

No. 5. June 24, 5790. Minute of the Trenton Lodge, No. 5, offering their Lodge-room, furniture and Tyler, for the use of the Grand Lodge during their present sitting.

Which said several papers were read.

Whereupon the papers No. 1 and No. 2 were considered, and thereupon,

Resolved, That the constituting of a Federal or Supreme Grand Lodge, to have jurisdiction over the respective Grand and other Lodges throughout the continent, "as proposed by the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Georgia," is inexpedient, and, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, impracticable.

On motion, and seconded,

Resolved, That instead thereof, this Grand Lodge do agree that a Convention of Deputies from the several Grand Lodges within the United States of America be held, for the purpose of forming a more particular and intimate union, and also to establish a regular and permanent intercourse between them; that this Grand Lodge conceive such a convention would be highly advantageous to the fraternity, and will appoint deputies for the aforesaid purposes.

Ordered, That the Right Worshipful Grand Master be requested to write to the Right Worshipful Brother James Jackson and enclose him a copy of the determination of this Lodge.

Ordered, That the Committee of Correspondence do write to the several Grand Lodges of the United States of America, including a copy of the determination of this Grand Lodge and desiring their concurrence in the appointment of Deputies to meet in Convention for the purposes.

The papers marked No. 3 and 4 in the preceding list, were read, considered, and directed to be filed.

A motion was made by Brother Richard Howell and seconded, that the Committee of Correspondence also communicate with the other Grand Lodges of the United States about the most proper measures for adopting regular foreign bretheren as well as to restrain the censures excluding Modern Masons, to their proper objects, and also, that the Committee report the result of their Correspondence at the next Communication, to which the Lodge agreed.

Ordered, That Brothers Maskell Ewing, Esq., Grand Secretary, Aaron Dunham, Esq., Grand Treasurer, and Brothers Aaron D. Woodruff and Richard Howell, Esqrs., be appointed the Committee of Correspondence for the ensuing year.

Ordered, That the thanks of this Lodge be communicated to Lodge No. 5, for their polite offer of their Lodge room for the use of the Grand Lodge.

Ordered, That the Treasurer pay to David Wrighter, Tyler of the Grand Lodge, the sum of four dollars for his attendance this sitting.

The Lodge closed in harmony to meet at this place again, on the second Tuesday in January next, unless, &c.

GENERAL REGULATIONS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF NEW JERSEY.

CHAPTER I.

OF THE GRAND LODGE IN GENERAL.

Sec. 1. The Grand Lodge consists of and is formed by the Masters and Wardens of all the regular Lodges on record, with the Grand Master at their head, the Deputy Grand Master on his left and the Grand Wardens in their proper places, attended also by the Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, Tyler, Pursuivant and other necessary officers. All Past Grand officers, also the Past Masters of warranted Lodges on record, whilst they continue members of any regular Lodge, are likewise by courtesy as well as custom, considered as members of and admitted to vote in all Grand Lodges; also those members who were present at and signed the instrument drawn up and unanimously agreed upon at the Convention on the formation of this Grand Lodge, are considered as members of and admitted to vote in the same whilst they continue members of or pay dues to any regular Lodge on record. No other brother shall be admitted into the Grand Lodge except one who is a petitioner complaining or a witness in some case, or one called in by motion, or when the officer of any particular Lodge from such urgent necessity as may regularly plead his excuse, cannot personally attend, he may nominate and send a brother of his Lodge, with his jewel and clothing, to supply his room and support the honor of his Lodge, provided such brother hath heretofore been in the same office with the brother who deputes him or in some higher office, producing a written deputation under the hand and seal of the brother deputing; and if a single brother is deputed to represent all the officers of any particular Lodge, he ought not to be under the rank of Past Master and member of the Lodge he is chosen to represent, and his commission as proxy must be under the seal of the Lodge that appoints him, signed by the Master and countersigned by the Secretary.

Sec. 2. No new Lodge is owned, nor can their officers be admitted into the Grand Lodge, until such new Lodge be first regularly constituted by the authority of the Grand Lodge and registered in the same.

Sec. 3. No officer of the Grand Lodge is to attend the same without his jewel, nor any Master or Warden or representative of a particular Lodge, without the jewels which he ought to wear in his own Lodge, except for some sufficient reason, to be allowed of in the Grand Lodge. Past Masters are also to wear theirs.

Sec. 4. The main business of the Grand Lodge, whether at half-yearly Communications or other meetings, is seriously to discuss of and

sedately to consider, transact and settle all matters that concern the prosperity of the Craft and the Fraternity in general or private Lodges and single brothers in particular. Here, therefore, all differences that cannot be made up and accommodated privately or by a particular Lodge, are to be considered and decided on. And if any brother thinks himself aggrieved by such decision, he may by lodging an application with the Grand Secretary, have the matter reheard and finally determined upon at the next ensuing Communication. And in general, whatever business cannot be transacted or finished at any one meeting of the Grand Lodge, may be either adjourned to the next meeting, or in the meanwhile, be referred to a committee to be by them maturely heard, considered and reported upon to the said next meeting. The Grand Lodge shall likewise consider of the most prudent and effectual means of collecting and managing what money may accrue to the general Charity Fund.

Sec. 5. It is the prerogative of the Grand Lodge, and the Right Worshipful Grand Master has full power and authority, when the Grand Lodge is duly assembled, to make, or cause to be made in his Worship's presence. Masons at sight, and such making is good; but they cannot be made out of his presence without his written dispensation for that purpose; nor is any warranted Lodge obliged to receive any of the persons so made as members, except by vote and with the full consent of the Body of such Lodge. But the Right Worshipful Grand Master, with the authority of the Grand Lodge, may grant them a warrant and form them into a new Lodge.

Sec. 6. Old Grand Officers may again be chosen officers of a private Lodge, and this does not deprive them of any of the privileges to which, as old Grand Officers, they are entitled in the Grand Lodge, except that, being officers of a private Lodge, they might depute a Past Officer of their particular Lodge to act for them, pro tempore, in the Grand Lodge when they ascend their former rank in the same. And it is incompatible with the laws of this Society for any brother to hold more than one office in the Grand Lodge at the same time.

CHAPTER II.

OF GRAND VISITATIONS.

Sec. 1. The Grand Master, with his Deputy, the Grand Wardens and Grand Secretary, shall, if possible, annually go at least once round, and visit all the Lodges under his jurisdiction, or, when this laudable duty becomes impracticable, from either the distance or large number of Lodges under his jurisdiction, he shall appoint visitors composed of his Grand Officers, and such other assistants as he may think proper, who shall, at least once in every year, visit and make faithful report of their proceedings to the Grand Lodge, according to the instructions given them,

Sec. 2. When both the Grand Master and Deputy are absent, the Senior or Junior Wardens may preside as Deputy in visiting Lodges or constituting any new Lodge; neither of which can be done without at least one of the Grand Officers being present, or some faithful brother who has passed the Chair, &c., having a proper dispensation for this purpose, under the seal of the Grand Lodge, if the order be made in the absence of the Grand Master or his Deputy, or under their private seals, if present and sign the same; and in either case it must be countersigned and attested by the Grand Secretary, to have the full authority of the Grand Lodge. The brother so appointed shall act as Grand Master *pro tempore*, in visiting old Lodges or in constituting new ones.

CHAPTER III.

THE ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

Only those who are members of the Grand Lodge must be within doors during the election of Grand Officers.

Sec. 1. The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Grand Secretary, Deputy Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, respectively, shall be chosen by ballot, at the Communication on or near the Festival of St. John the Evangelist, in every year, previously to the celebration of the Annual Feast and other important business of the season; and if any two or more shall have an equal number of votes in their favour, for any of the offices assigned, by which the choice shall not be determined on the first ballot, then a second ballot shall be taken, which shall be confined to the persons who, on the first ballot, shall have had an equal number; and if the ballots should again be equal between two or more persons, then the election for said office shall be determined by lot, between those who shall have equal numbers.

Sec. 2. The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, so chosen, shall be installed in their respective offices, if present, on the said day, (except in the case of the Grand Master alone, who, on signifying his acceptance of the office, may be installed by proxy, if he cannot attend the Grand Lodge, but such proxy must be either the last or a former Grand Master, or a Past Master of a very ancient and reputable standing;) and after such installment, the Grand Master may appoint his Grand Deacons, Grand Chaplain, Grand Stewards, Grand Marshal, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Pursuivant and Grand Tyler; but no brother shall be appointed to any of the before mentioned offices, (except Grand Pursuivant and Grand Tyler) who has not passed the chair of some regular Lodge under this, or some other ancient jurisdiction.

Sec. 3. The Grand Secretary, by virtue of his office, is a member of the Grand Lodge; he shall have the care of the archives; he shall keep fair records of all the transactions of the Grand Lodge; he shall keep a register, for the particular purpose of entering all warrants, dispensations, certificates, the names of every member of each Lodge, and the return from the several Lodges; he shall furnish the first named person on every committee, as soon as possible, with a copy of the minutes and papers which respect the business of such committee, for which he shall take a receipt; and the person so first named shall call the committee together, and be answerable for the papers, which he shall return with the report. All petitions, applications and appeals are to pass through his hands; no warrant, certificate or instrument of writing from the Grand Lodge is authentic without his attestation and signature, and under the Grand Seal, as the laws require. The general correspondence with Lodges and brethren over the whole world is to be managed by him, agreeably to the voice of the Grand Lodge and directions of the Grand Master or his Deputy, whom he must therefore be always ready to attend, with his Deputy and the books of the Lodge, in order to give the general state of matters, and what is proper to be done on any emergency.

Sec. 4. The Grand Treasurer is, by virtue of his office, a member of the Grand Lodge, and hath a right to appoint a Deputy; to him is committed the care of all money raised for the general charity and other uses of the Grand Lodge, an account of which he is regularly to enter in a book, with the respective uses for which the several sums are intended; he is likewise to pay out, expend or disburse the same, on such orders signed as the rules of the Grand Lodge in this respect shall allow to be voted; he or his Deputy shall always be present in the Grand Lodge, and ready to attend the Grand Master and other Grand Officers, with his books, for their inspection, when required, and likewise any Grand Committee that may be appointed for adjudging and examining his accounts.

Sec. 5. The Grand Deacons are always members of the Grand Lodge, and may be either nominated occasionally, on every Communication of the Grand Lodge, or appointed annually by the Grand Master or presiding officer.

Sec. 6. The Grand Tyler and Grand Pursuivant must be Master Masons, but are not members of the Grand Lodge, nor allowed to speak without orders. The Tyler's duty is to look after the door on the outward side, to see that none but members enter in, and to summon the members on special occasions and emergencies, by order of the Grand Master or his Deputy, signified to him under the hand of the Grand Secretary or his Deputy. The business of the Pursuivant is to stand at the inward door, and to report the names and titles of all that want admittance, as reported to him by the Tyler; he is also to go upon messages, and perform sundry other services known only in the Lodge.

CHAPTER IV.

RULES FOR CONDUCTING BUSINESS IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY OF THE GRAND OFFICERS.

Sec. 1. If the Grand Master be absent at any meeting of the Grand Lodge, stated or occasional, the Deputy is to supply his place; if the Deputy be likewise absent, the Senior Grand Warden takes the chair, and, in his absence, the Junior Grand Warden. All Grand Officers, present or past, take place of every Master of a Lodge, and the present Grand Officers take place of all past Grand Officers, yet they may waive this privilege; and if neither any of the present or past Grand Officers attend at any Grand Lodge, stated or occasional, being duly summoned, the Master of the senior private Lodge is to take the chair, except in the case of a special commission from the Grand Master, under his hand and seal of office, countersigned by the Grand Secretary, to any particular brother. When neither the present or past Deputy Grand Masters or Grand Wardens are present, the Grand Master or he that legally presides in his stead, calls forth whom he pleases to act as Deputy Grand Masters and Grand Wardens *pro tempore*; also, that of a Secretary or any other Grand Officer *pro tempore*, if neither the stated officers or the deputies of such of them as have a right to nominate a Deputy be present, for the business of the Grand Lodge must never stand still for want of officers.

Sec. 2. In case of the death of the Grand Master or other Grand Officer, the same order of succession and precedency takes place, till a new Grand Master or other Grand Officer is duly chosen and installed.

CHAPTER V.

RULES IN GRAND LODGE DURING THE TIME OF PUBLIC BUSINESS.

Sec. 1. The Grand Lodge, as soon as a representative from at least three Lodges on record be present, may proceed to business, and when the Grand Master or other presiding officer has taken the chair and given due notice, the brethren shall take their seats and observe a strict silence, under the penalty of a public reprimand, for breaking the same without leave, or such further punishment as the Grand Lodge may inflict.

Sec. 2. The representatives of each Lodge shall be seated together agreeably to their seniority, No. 1 taking the left hand of the Grand Master; No. 2 taking the left of No. 1, and so on till all the Lodges present are seated; and they are to keep their seats according to the number of the Lodge, during the Communication, under the like penalties.

Sec. 3. The jewels to be worn by the Grand Officers shall be of gold or gilt, pendent to a collar of blue ribbon, and the aprons shall be edged and fringed with blue silk. No brother shall be permitted to enter into the

Lodge after it is opened, unless he be properly clothed and until his name and quality be announced and leave given, and shall enter with due forms.

Sec. 4. Every one that speaks shall rise and address the chair in due form; nor shall any presume to interrupt him, under the penalty by the first section of this chapter provided, unless the Grand Master or presiding officer find him wandering from the point in hand and shall think fit to reduce him to order, for then the said speaker shall sit down and after he has been set right, he may proceed.

Sec. 5. No brother is to speak but twice to the same affair, unless by permission, or to explain himself.

Sec. 6. Whenever the Grand Master or presiding officer rises from his chair or calls to order, all debates shall cease and there shall be a strict silence, under the above penalties.

Sec. 7. If in the Grand Lodge, any member be twice called to order at any one Communication, for transgressing these rules and is guilty of a third offence of the same nature, the chair shall peremptorally order him to quit the Lodge Room for that meeting.

Sec. 8. Whoever shall be so rude as to ridicule a brother on what another has said, he shall be forthwith solemnly excluded the Communication and declared incapable of being a member of the Grand Lodge for the future, till at another time he publicly owns his fault and his grace be granted.

Sec. 9. No motion for a new regulation or for the alteration of an old one, shall be made until it be first handed up in writing to the chair, and after it has been perused be by the Grand Master or presiding officer, the matter may be moved publicly and then it shall be audibly read by the Secretary, and if it be seconded, it must be referred to the next Communication, and then committed to the consideration of the whole assembly, that their sense may be fully heard about it, after which the question shall be put thereupon. But no vote shall be reconsidered by a smaller number of Lodges than were present when the vote passed nor on the same day, the motion to reconsider is made, unless they refuse or neglect to attend after due notice of such motion to reconsider.

Sec. 10. All matters in the Grand Lodge are determined by a majority of votes, each member having one vote and the Grand Master the casting vote, unless the Grand Lodge leave anything to the Grand Master for expedition. The opinion and votes are to be signified by holding up the right hand, which uplifted hands the Grand Wardens are to count, unless the number of hands be so unequal as to render the counting of them unnecessary. But in order to preserve harmony, it is necessary to use counters and a balloting box, when occasion requires.

Sec. 11. All questions of order shall be decided by the chair and without debate.

CHAPTER VI.

PARTICULAR RULES IN THE GRAND LODGE OF NEW JERSEY.

Every Grand Lodge has an inherent power and authority to make local ordinances and new regulations as well as to amend and explain the old ones for their own particular benefit and the good of Masonry in general; provided always, that such regulations be first duly proposed in writing for the consideration of the members, and be at last duly enacted with the consent of the majority, and provided also, that the Grand Masonic Constitution be never violated nor any of the land marks removed. This has never been disputed, for the members of every Grand Lodge are the true representatives of all the fraternity in Communication and are an absolute and independent body with legislative authority. "My son, forget not my law, but let thine heart keep my commandments, and remove not the ancient land marks which thy fathers have set."—SOLOMON.

Upon these principles the following particular Rules have been made or adopted in the Grand Lodge of New Jersey:

Sec. 1. The Grand Lodge must meet twice a year, statedly, for half-yearly Communications of all the Lodges, and also have occasional meetings and adjournments quarterly or otherwise, as business may require and at such places as the Grand Master may appoint for such special meeting. The half-yearly Communication shall be held at *
on or near the Festival Days of St. John the Baptist and Evangelist; and the different Lodges are to attend the stated and occasional meetings by their proper officers or deputies.

Sec. 2. Every member of a constituted Lodge under this Grand Lodge, shall pay one shilling quarterly to the Charity Fund of the same.

Sec. 3. Every Lodge shall also pay to the Grand Lodge the sum of five shillings for every person who obtains the benefit of Masonry under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, all which dues shall be paid at each half-yearly Communication; and the Master and Wardens or representatives from any Lodge, shall not take their seats until their dues be paid and the Treasurer's receipt produced therefor, and in case of neglect or refusal to pay the same at the next Communication and no reasonable excuse offered, such Lodge shall be struck off the books of the Grand Lodge and their warrant considered as null and void.

Sec. 4. No new warrant shall be granted but on the petition of at least five, three of whom to be known and approved Master Masons, and the sum of ten pounds shall be paid for the same, before delivery; and in case the same be obtained before payment, it shall be considered as null and void until payment for the same be made.

Sec. 5. For every member made under a dispensation granted by the Grand Lodge shall be paid the sum of thirty shillings, and applied to the

* The blank left open till the next Communication.

Charity Fund; that the same be granted to continue for one month, and may be renewed for one month more, and no longer.

Sec. 6. For every certificate shall also be paid the sum of seventeen shillings and six pence, to be applied to like purposes; nor shall any be granted by the Grand Lodge to any brother without a previous certificate from the Lodge of which he is a member, setting forth his regular behaviour, and that he has discharged all his dues to the Lodge.

Sec. 7. Every person initiated into any Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall pay to the Charity Fund of that Lodge the sum of four pounds ten shillings, and if made by dispensation from the Grand Master or his Deputy, the further sum of 20s to the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge; and every member of a constituted Lodge shall pay one shilling monthly to the funds of that Lodge, while he continues a member.

Sec. 8. No Lodge shall make more than five brethren at one time, nor shall any person be made or admitted a member of a Lodge without being proposed one month before, that due notice may be given to all the members to make the necessary inquiries into the candidate's character, unless by dispensation from the Grand Master, or Deputy, in his absence.

Sec. 9. There shall be no processions but with the consent of two-thirds of the members present at the meeting next preceding the Feast of St. John, when the same is to take place; and no funeral procession shall be had without notice given to the highest Grand Officer present, or to the Grand Lodge, if sitting, by the Lodge to which the deceased brother belonged, and leave granted; and in case no such Grand Officer be present, or Grand Lodge held at the time of such decease, the Lodge to whom the deceased belonged, or, if a stranger, to whom application shall be made, shall be authorized to proceed in the usual and accustomed manner.

Sec. 10. Any person made a Mason in a clandestine manner, contrary to the rules of the Grand Lodge, shall not become a member, or sit in any regular Lodge, until such Lodge who is about to admit him shall have him first entered and passed through the usual courses.

Sec. 11. No member of any Lodge under this jurisdiction shall be admitted a member of any other, without first producing a certificate of his good behaviour, and his having paid all his dues to that Lodge.

Sec. 12. The majority of every particular Lodge, when duly congregated, shall have the privilege of giving instructions to their Master and Wardens, or representatives, before the meeting of the Grand Chapter.

Sec. 13. The brethren of all the regular Lodges under this jurisdiction, if within any reasonable distance, shall meet in some convenient place, on every St. John's Day, unless the same shall happen on a Sunday, and in this case on the day following; and when business is over, they may repair to their festival dinners, either in their own or any other regular Lodge, as they may think most convenient; and any brethren around the

globe, who are found true and faithful members of the Ancient Craft, may be admitted as sojourners.

Sec. 14. Every Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall, at the Communication on or near St. John the Evangelist's Day, in every year, deliver to the Grand Secretary and Treasurer, and to the representative of each Lodge, an exact list of the names, titles and occupations of the officers and members of their Lodge, signed by the present officers, and also the times of their initiations, admissions, deaths, removal, suspension or expulsion of members, and rejections of candidates; and their usual time and place of meeting; and if any Lodge shall neglect to send a representation for three successive Communications, such Lodge shall be struck off the list, and their warrant considered as null and void.

Sec. 15. At the Communication on or near St. John the Baptist's Day, of every year, there shall be a committee appointed to examine and settle the Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's accounts, who shall report at the next Communication.

Sec. 16. All appeals from any private Lodge shall be in writing, and left with the Grand Secretary; and the appellant shall give the other party one month's notice thereof, otherwise the Grand Lodge shall not proceed; and all appeals, letters, &c., shall be read in Grand Lodge, but first handed to the chair.

Sec. 17. There shall be a Committee of Correspondence, of whom the Grand Secretary shall always be one, chosen at the Communication on or near St. John the Evangelist's Day, in every year, whose duties and powers shall be ascertained at the time of their appointment.

Sec. 18. Any brother who shall render himself amenable to the rules, orders and regulations of the Grand Lodge, shall be excluded the Grand Communication, and also every Lodge under their jurisdiction, until restored by the Grand Lodge; of this the Grand Secretary shall notify every Lodge; and when any brother is excluded any particular Lodge, for malpractices, information thereof shall be sent to the Grand Lodge, and all the Lodges under this jurisdiction, as soon as convenient.

A true extract from the minutes, the same having been agreed to in Grand Lodge, July 6th, 5790.

MASKELL EWING, *Grand Secretary.*

LIST OF WARRANTS ISSUED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF NEW JERSEY.

NO.	PLACES OF MEETING.	DAYS OF MEETING.
1.	Bedminster, Somerset County,	1st Thursday in every month.
2.	Newark, Essex County, -	2d and 4th Wednesday in every month from the Fall to the Spring Equinox, and the first Wednesday next after every full moon, from the Spring to the Fall Equinox.

NO.	PLACES OF MEETING.	DAYS OF MEETING.
3.	Freehold Monmouth County,	1st Monday in every month.
4.	Morristown, Morris County,	1st Monday before the full moon, except the moon fulls on Monday, and then on that day.
5.	Trenton, Hunterdon County,	
6.	Hackensack, Bergen County,	1st Thursday before the full moon, except the moon fulls on Thursday, and then on that day.
7.	Kingwood, Hunterdon Co.,	
8.	Newton, Sussex County,	

JANUARY SESSION, 1791.

TRENTON, January 11, 5791.

The Grand Lodge met agreeably to adjournment.

PRESENT.

R. W. JOHN BEATTY, Esq., J. G. Warden and G. Master, p. t.
ROBERT L. HOOPER, Esq., Deputy Grand Master.
JAMES LINN, Senior Warden, p. t.
ISAAC DE COU, Esq., Senior Deacon.
CHARLES TOMPKINS, Junior Deacon.
MASKELL EWING, Secretary.

James Linn, Esq., Master, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.

Jeremiah Brewen, Senior Warden, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

Jonathan Rhea, Master, Hon. Elisha Lawrence, Esq., Trinity Lodge, No. 3.

No representation from Hiram Lodge, No. 4.

Aaron D. Woodruff, Esq., Master, Richard Howell, Senior Warden, Samuel W. Stockton, Junior Warden, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

Nehemiah Wade, Master, Samuel Reading, Union Lodge, No. 6.

Daniel Bray, Master, Jonathan Woolverton, Past Master, Elijah Rittenhouse, Senior Warden, Jonathan Doan, Junior Warden, Unity Lodge, No. 7.

Joseph J. Hendrie, Junior Warden, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.

PAST MASTERS—Anthony Reckless, Pontius Delare Stelle, Thomas Bullman.

The credentials of the above named deputies having been severally read and approved of, and ordered to be filed, whereupon they severally took their places in the Grand Lodge.

A Master Masons Lodge was opened in due form.

The Secretary reported that he had written to Lodges No. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6, agreeably to the order of the Grand Lodge at the last sitting, and read in his place a copy of the letter forwarded.

A letter from John N. Cumming, Esq., Senior Grand Warden, was read, apologizing for his non-attendance, and desiring that some other person may be appointed a Warden in his place, as it is inconvenient for him to attend the meetings of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, and

The Honorable and Worshipful John Beatty, Esq., was chosen Grand Master.

The Honorable Robert L. Hooper was unanimously appointed Deputy Grand Master.

Samuel Witham Stockton, Esq., Senior Grand Warden.

Jonathan Rhea, Esq., Junior Grand Warden.

Maskell Ewing, Esq., Grand Secretary.

Who severally attended, were duly installed, and took their places in the Lodge.

The Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until 4 o'clock, P. M.

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4 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Lodge was again called to labor.

William Tindall was duly appointed Deputy Grand Secretary.

Thomas Bullman was duly appointed Grand Treasurer.

Brother Woodruff, from the committee appointed to settle the accounts of the late Grand Treasurer, Joshua Corshon, Esq., reported a state of the same, in the following words:

DR. *Joshua Corshon, Esq., late Grand Treasurer, in acc't with Grand Lodge.*

5789.			5788.		
Sept. 7.	To am't of receipts from the several Lodges, &c., to this day...	£127 18 4	June 24.	By cash paid on orders and receipts produced and entered to this day.....	£68 4 0
			Dec. 31.	By cash p'd G'd Tyler at Newark, for which no voucher produced	1 10 0
			5789.		
			Sept. 7.	By cash p'd M. Ewing, Grand Sec'y.....	5 6 9
			July 9.	By cash p'd D. Wrighter, G. Tyler...	1 10 0
				Bal. due Grand Lodge..	51 7 7
		£127 18 4			£127 18 4

The committee appointed to examine the accounts of Joshua Corshon, Esq., late Treasurer, beg leave to report the above statement, by which it appears that there is due to the Grand Lodge, in the hands of the late Grand Treasurer, the sum of fifty-one pounds, seven shillings and seven pence.

AN. DN. WOODRUFF,
RD. HOWELL,
THOMAS BULLMAN.

Resolved, That the Lodge agree to the said settlement, and Brother Woodruff informed that the money was ready to be paid forward to the present Grand Treasurer, which was ordered to be paid to him accordingly.

Ordered, That Brothers Woodruff, Tompkins and DeCou, be appointed a committee to settle the late Treasurer's (Aaron Dunham, Esq.,) accounts, and to report thereon to the Lodge, at their next meeting.

The Lodge took into consideration the blank in Chap. VI, Sec. 1, of the Rules and Regulations.

A motion was made that one place should be named for the half-yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge; whereupon,

(A motion was made to postpone the question until the next meeting, which was negatived.)

And the votes being taken, the blank was directed to be filled up with Trenton.

A petition from the Masons of Cumberland county, praying that a warrant may be granted to Brothers James Giles, Esq., Master, Almarine Brooks, Senior Warden, and Benjamin Peck, Esq., Junior Warden, to hold a Lodge in Cumberland, to be called Brearley Lodge, No. 9, which was agreed to, and a warrant ordered.

The Secretary laid before the Lodge communications from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, received July 9, 5790, which were read and ordered to be filed.

The Grand Master laid before the Lodge a minute of Trenton Lodge, No. 5, offering their room, furniture, &c.

Ordered, That the thanks of this Lodge be communicated to No. 5, for their polite and obliging offer.

Information was communicated from No. 2, that they had unanimously agreed to suspend John Reading from membership in that Lodge, for knowingly defrauding his brother.

A petition from the officers of No. 7, that by accident they had mislaid or lost their warrant, and praying that the same may be replaced, which was agreed to; and the same extend to Amwell, as well as Kingwood.

A motion was made by Brother Wade for an amendment to the Rules and Regulations, in the following words:

"To Sec. 8, Chap. 6. To be added:

"N. B. This section is not to extend to foreigners or natives whose particular business obliges them immediately to go abroad, but if the Master thinks proper to make and raise any such person on the same night, he must give the first convenient notice to the Grand Secretary of his having so done.

NEHEMIAH WADE."

Ordered, That the Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Robert L. Hooper, Esq., the Worshipful Maskell Ewing, Esq., the Grand Secretary of this Lodge, and the Worshipful Brother Aaron D. Woodruff, Esq., Master of No. 5, or any one or more of them, do attend at Bridgeton, in the county of Cumberland, at such time as will be convenient to them, and then and there install the Master appointed in a warrant granted by the Lodge to Brearley Lodge, No. 9, to be held in the county of Cumberland, and that they, or any one or more of them, report their proceedings to this Lodge, at their next meeting.

The Lodge adjourned to meet at Trenton on the 24th of June next, being St. John's Day.

JUNE SESSION, 1791.

TRENTON, June 24, 5791.

The Grand Lodge met agreeably to adjournment.

PRESENT.

R. W. JOHN BEATTY, ESQ., Grand Master.
SAMUEL W. STOCKTON, ESQ., Senior Grand Warden.
WILLIAM McKISSACK, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
WILLIAM LOWREY, ESQ., Senior Deacon.
AARON HOWELL, Junior Deacon.
MASKELL EWING, Grand Secretary.
THOMAS BULLMAN, Grand Treasurer.

William McKissack, Past Master, John Taylor, Esq., Solomon Lodge, No. 1.

No representation from St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

Hon. Elisha Lawrence, Esq., William Lloyd, Trinity Lodge, No. 3.

Joseph Scott, David Cockran, Hiram Lodge, No. 4.

Isaac DeCou, Esq., Rev. William Frazer, Aaron Dunham, Esq., Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

No representation from Union Lodge, No. 6.

William Lowrey, Esq., Unity Lodge, No. 7.

No representation from Harmony Lodge, No. 8.

James Giles, Esq., Master, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

PAST MASTER—Pontius Delare Stelle.

Brother Maskell Ewing reported that he had attended at Bridgeton and installed the Master of Lodge No. 9, agreeably to his appointment at the last meeting.

Brother DeCou, appointed to settle the accounts of Aaron Dunham, Esq., late Grand Treasurer, prayed longer time to make report.

Ordered, That the committee be continued and that they report at the next meeting of the Grand Lodge.

The amendment proposed to Sec. 8, Chapter 6, of the Rules and Regulations of this Grand Lodge for consideration at this meeting, was taken into consideration and after some time spent therein, was postponed for consideration at the next meeting of the Grand Lodge.

A petition from Thomas Paterson, William Piatt, Lewis Bond, John Lowrey and Zebulon Pike, Ancient Masons, praying to be endulged with a warrant to hold a Traveling Lodge in the

armies of the United States, was read and the consideration thereof postponed until the afternoon.

On application for charity of Barnabas Murphy,

Ordered, That Brothers Lawrence, DeCou, Bullman, Dunham and Ewing, be a committee to examine into his particular necessity and report to the Lodge whether he be allowed anything from the fund, and what.

Brother Dunham from the Committee of Charity, reported that the Committee had ordered five dollars paid to Barnabas Murphy, and which he had paid accordingly.

On motion,

Ordered, That Brothers Aaron D. Woodruff, Richard Howell, Esq. and the Rev. William Frazier, be a committee to draft and report general rules respecting charity, at the next meeting.

The Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until 5 o'clock, P. M.

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5 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Lodge was again called to labor.

A petition was presented from John Reading, appealing to the Lodge from a vote of suspension of Lodge No. 2, presented at the last Communication, was read, praying to be heard against the said information and suspension.

Ordered, That the said petitioner be heard at the next Communication, in his defence, and that the Secretary inform Lodge No. 2 of this appeal and they attend by their deputies to support their minute.

The petition from Brother Thomas Paterson and other officers, of the levies, &c., of New Jersey, was taken up again, read and considered.

On the question, whether the Lodge agree to issue a warrant agreeably to the prayer of the said petition, it was negatived.

The Hon. Elisha Lawrence, Esq., having been appointed Master of Trinity Lodge, No. 3, was installed in due form.

A minute of Trenton Lodge, No. 5, offering their room, jewels, &c., for the use of the Grand Lodge, was read and the thanks of this Lodge ordered to be communicated, by the Secretary, to Trenton Lodge for their polite offer.

Ordered, That Brother DeCou be requested to wait on Brother Frazier and desire him to preach a sermon before the Grand Lodge, at their next Communication.

The Lodge closed in good harmony to meet again in Trenton. on St. John's Day, which will be the 27th of December next, unless, &c.

SEPTEMBER SESSION, 1791.

TRENTON, September 8, 5791.

By virtue of a summons for a meeting of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Lodge met this day, at 3 o'clock, P. M.

PRESENT.

R. W. JOHN BEATTY, ESQ., Grand Master.
SAM'L W. STOCKTON, ESQ., Senior Warden.
JONATHAN RHEA, ESQ., Junior Warden.
MASKELL EWING, ESQ., Grand Secretary.
WILLIAM TINDALL, Deputy Grand Secretary.
THOMAS BULLMAN, Treasurer.

Lames Linn, Esq., John Taylor, Esq., James Taylor, Solomon Lodge, No. 1.

John N. Cumming, Esq., David A. Ogden, Esq., St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

No representation from Trinity Lodge, No. 3.

No representation from Hiram Lodge, No. 4.

Aaron D. Woodruff, Richard Howell, Isaac DeCou, Esqrs., Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

Nehemiah Wade, Esq., Union Lodge, No. 6.

Daniel Bray, Master, John Snyder, Esq., Unity Lodge, No. 7.

Edward Dunlop, Past Master, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.

No representation from Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

ATTENDING BRETHREN entitled to vote, as having been present at the formation of the Grand Lodge:

Joseph Bloomfield, Esq., Attorney General of N. J., Joshua Corshon, Esq.

VISITING BRETHREN admitted on motion:

Joseph Reed, Esq , Franklin Davenport, Dr. William Burnet, Francis Bullis.

A petition from Gen. Arthur St. Clair, Gen. Harmer and others from Cincinnati, Hamilton county, Territory of the United States, northwest of the river Ohio, praying that a warrant to

hold a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, may be issued to Brothers Dr. William Burnett, Master, John Ludlow, Senior Warden, and Dr. Calvin Morrell, Junior Warden, was read.

On the question, whether the Grand Lodge agree to comply with the prayer of the said petition, it was carried in the affirmative unanimously; whereupon,

Ordered, That a warrant do issue to Dr. William Burnett as Master, John Ludlow as Senior Warden, and Dr. Calvin Morrell as Junior Warden, to hold a Lodge in Hamilton county, in the Territory northwest of the river Ohio, to be distinguished by the name of Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10.

Ordered, That the Treasurer pay the Tyler fifteen shillings for attending this meeting.

The Lodge closed in good harmony, to meet agreeably to former adjournment.

DECEMBER SESSION, 1791.

TRENTON, December 27, A. C. 1791, A. M. 5791.

Agreeably to adjournment at the last sitting, the Grand Lodge met, and a Master Masons Lodge was opened in due form.

PRESENT.

HON. & W. JOHN BEATTY, Grand Master.
SAMUEL WITHAM STOCKTON, ESQ., Senior Grand Warden.
JONATHAN RHEA, Junior Grand Warden.
MASKELL EWING, Grand Secretary.
THOMAS BULLMAN, Grand Treasurer.
GERSHOM CRAFT, ESQ., Senior Grand Deacon.
WILLIAM JACKSON, Junior Grand Deacon.

John Taylor, Esq., Past Master, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.

Israel Hedden, Esq., Junior Warden, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

Hon. Elisha Lawrence, Master, William Lloyd, Junior Warden, Elisha Newell, Trinity Lodge, No. 3.

No representation from Hiram Lodge, No. 4.

Aaron D. Woodruff, Esq., Master, Isaac De Cou, Esq., Junior Warden, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

Major Samuel Reading, Union Lodge, No. 6.

Daniel Bray, Master, Elijah Rittenhouse, Senior Warden, William Lowrey, Junior Warden, Unity Lodge, No. 7.

John Holmes, Master elect, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.

David Seeley, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

P. G. Treasurer and Past Master—Aaron Dunham, Esq.

Richard Lloyd,	Joseph Reed, Esq.,	Rev. William Frazier,
Henry Piercey,	Dr. Charles Smith,	——— Gibbs,
Benj. Rodgers,	John McElroy, P. M.,	No. 25, Penn.,
Alex. Calhoun,	John Dougherty,	John Snyder, Esq.,
——— Schenck,	Dr. Winecoop,	Capt. Bernard Hanlon.

The credentials of the deputies being read, were approved, and directed to be filed.

The Grand Lodge retired to the Episcopal Church, in Trenton, where a discourse was delivered to the brethren by the Rev. Brother Frazier.

The Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until 4 o'clock, P. M.

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4 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

The Lodge proceeded to the appointment of their officers for the ensuing year: whereupon,

The Honorable and Worshipful John Beatty, Esq., was reappointed, by a unanimous vote, Grand Master for the ensuing year.

The Worshipful Robert L. Hooper, Deputy Grand Master.

Samuel W. Stockton, Senior Grand Warden.

Jonathan Rhea, Junior Grand Warden, having desired to withdraw his name from the list of candidates,

The Honorable and Worshipful Elisha Lawrence, Esq., was unanimously elected Junior Grand Warden.

Maskell Ewing, Grand Secretary.

William Tindall, Deputy Grand Secretary.

Thomas Bullman, Grand Treasurer.

Which several officers having been duly installed, took their places in the Lodge.

Brother Isaac De Cou, who was appointed, with Brothers Aaron D. Woodruff and Charles Tompkins, to settle the late

Treasurer, Aaron Dunham's account, per order of the 11th January last, prayed longer time to make report.

Ordered, That the said committee be continued, and that they report at the next meeting of the Grand Lodge.

On motion,

Ordered, That Brothers Woodruff, Dunham and Stelle, be a committee to examine and settle the accounts of Brother Thomas Bullman, the Grand Treasurer for the last year, and report a statement and settlement of the same at the next meeting of this Lodge.

The amendment proposed by Brother Wade, the 11th January last, to Sec. 8, Chap. 6, of the Rules and Regulations of this Lodge, for consideration at this meeting, was taken up and read, and, after some time spent thereon,

On the question whether the Lodge agree to the said amendment, it was carried in the negative.

Brothers A. D. Woodruff, R. Howell and Frazier, having been appointed a committee, at the last meeting, to draught and report general rules respecting charity, and not being ready to report, prayed longer time.

Ordered, That the said committee be continued, and that they be requested to report at the next meeting of the Grand Lodge.

The appeal entered by John Reading, on the 24th June last, to the decision of Lodge No. 2, was postponed for a hearing until the next meeting.

On motion,

Ordered, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be given to the Reverend Brother Frazier, for his attention in preparing and preaching a sermon well adapted to the occasion, before the Grand Lodge this day, in his church, and that he be requested to deliver to the Grand Secretary, to be deposited among the archives of the Lodge, a fair copy of the same, and that the Treasurer be directed to pay unto Brother Frazier, for so doing, the sum of four pounds, ten shillings.

Ordered, That the Treasurer pay unto the clerk of the Episcopal Church, three dollars, to the sexton of ditto, seven shillings, six pence, and to the Tyler of the Lodge, four dollars, for which he is to have credit in the settlement of his accounts.

Brother Reading, from Union Lodge, No. 6, presented a minute of that Lodge setting forth that the said Lodge, No. 6, had

expelled James Hardie, an entered apprentice from that Lodge, for imposing on a brother, non-attendance, and not paying his dues, was filed and ordered to be communicated.

On motion,

Ordered, That any expense which the Grand Officers may be put to in visiting Lodges, shall hereafter be defrayed from the funds of the Grand Lodge, on an account produced to the Grand Treasurer under the hand of such officer.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary procure at the expense of the Grand Lodge, a sufficient quantity of blank printed returns of every kind necessary for the private Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and that he furnish each Lodge with at least four quires of each sort, he charging the Lodge so furnished with only the prime cost of the same, and that he also furnish each Lodge with twenty blank forms of certificates of the representation of the several Lodges to attend the Grand Lodge.

On motion of Brother Woodruff, seconded by Brother Hedden,

Ordered, That it be considered and determined at the next Communication, whether it is necessary for all Masters elect, prior to their entering on the duties of their office, shall be installed.

The Lodge closed in good harmony to meet again on the third day of July next, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

JULY SESSION, 1792.

TRENTON, July 3, A. C. 1792, A. M. 5792.

The Grand Lodge met agreeably to adjournment and a Master Masons Lodge was opened in due form.

PRESENT.

R. W. JOHN BEATTY, ESQ., Grand Master.
SAM'L W. STOCKTON, ESQ., Senior Grand Warden.
HON. ELISHA LAWRENCE, Junior Grand Warden.
MASKELL EWING, ESQ., Grand Secretary.
ISAAC DECOU, ESQ., Treasurer, p. t.
JAMES R. ENGLISH, Senior Deacon.
DR. BENJAMIN PECK, Junior Deacon.

Dr. William McKissack, Master, Col. John Taylor, George McDonald, Esq., Solomon Lodge, No. 1.

John N. Cumming, Esq., Master, Dr. William Burnett, Senior Warden, Israel Hedden, Esq., Junior Warden, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

Jonathan Rhea, Esq., Master, James R. English, Trinity Lodge, No. 3.

No representative from Hiram Lodge, No. 4.

Isaac DeCou, Esq., Aaron Dunham, Dr. Nicholas Bellville, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

No represetative from Hackensack Lodge, No. 6.

No representative from Unity Lodge, No. 7.

John Holmes, Master, Abraham Baily, Junior Warden, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.

Benjamin Peck, Esq., Junior Warden, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

No representative from Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10.

Past Masters—Joseph Bloomfield, Esq., Franklin Davenport, Esq., John Cochran.

Brother DeCou, from the committee appointed to examine and settle the accounts of Aaron Dunham, Esq., the late Grand Treasurer, brought in a report as follows:

That it appears that he received during his continuance in office, from the 27th December, 5789, to 27th December, 5790, the sum of £35, 5s, 4d.

That he has expended of the same during the same time, the sum of £21, 7s, 6d.

Leaving a balance in his hand, of - £13, 17s, 10d.

Which is submitted.

ISAAC DECOU,
AARON D. WOODRUFF,

Which report being read, the same was agreed to.

Ordered, That Brother Dunham pay the balance unto the present Grand Treasurer and take his receipt therefor.

Brothers Aaron D. Woodruff, Richard Howell and William Frazier, the committee appointed to draft general Rules of Charity, not being ready to report, prayed longer time.

Ordered, That the said committee be continued, and that they be directed to report at the next meeting of the Grand Lodge.

Brother Dunham, from the committee to examine and settle the accounts of the present Grand Treasurer, reported that they had made some progress in the business referred to them and desired time to complete the business, when they would make further report.

Ordered, That they take time and report at the next Communication.

The Lodge took into consideration the question, "whether it is necessary that all Masters elect, prior to their entering on the duties of their office, shall be installed," and after some time spent thereon,

Resolved, That it is necessary that all Masters elect, prior to their entering on the duties of their office, shall be installed.

A petition from the Masons of Woodbury, in the county of Gloucester, was read, praying that a warrant may be granted to Brothers Franklin Davenport, Master, John Blackwood, Senior Warden, and Champion Wood, Junior Warden, to be called Woodbury Lodge, No. 11, which was granted, and the warrant issued accordingly.

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary, Aaron D. Woodruff, Richard Howell and A. Dunham, be appointed a Committee of Correspondence.

The Worshipful informed the Lodge that he had received a minute from Trenton Lodge, No. 5, offering their room, furniture and jewels to the Grand Lodge; whereupon,

Ordered, That the thanks of this Lodge be communicated to Trenton Lodge, No. 5, for their polite offer.

The Right Worshipful Grand Master brought in the following report:

That agreeably to the directions contained in the 1st Section of the 2d Chapter of the General Regulations, he did, on the 5th, 10th and 12th of last April, visit the several Lodges of Solomon's, No. 1, Harmony, No. 8, and Hiram, No. 4; that in the two latter of these Lodges he was received with every mark of polite attention and brotherly affection by the officers and members, who were very generally convened for that occasion; that in Solomon's Lodge, No. 1, thro' what casuality he is not yet made acquainted, the Master and five members only attended, altho' a month's previous notice was given of his intended visitation; that in each of the three Lodges considerable business was done, and the said Master was happy to observe that particular regard was paid to the landmarks of Masonry, and no material variation in their several modes of working, and he mentions with particular pleasure the satisfaction he received in his communication with Hiram Lodge, the Master of which discovered that degree of information and zeal, and executed the duties of his office with that promptitude and accuracy, that does honor to the institution.

JOHN BEATTY, 3d July, 1792.

Ordered, That the said report be filed.

The Lodge was called off from labor to refreshment during pleasure.

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6 O'CLOCK,

The Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

Brothers Davenport, of No. 11, and Rhea, the Master elect of No. 3, were installed in due form.

The appeal of John Reading to this Lodge not having been pursued,

Ordered, That the same be dismissed, unless Mr. Reading come forward at the next Communication, and shew cause why he did not prosecute his appeal at this meeting, and that the Secretary give him notice of this order.

Ordered, That the Tyler receive thirty shillings from the Treasurer, for his attendance this day.

Ordered, That the Secretary provide ribbons, and have the jewels of this Lodge hung therewith, to be of a light blue color, and that he do also provide aprons for the officers of the Grand Lodge, to be edged round with blue fringe, and otherwise decorated in a Masonic manner, and that the Treasurer be directed, on an order from the Grand Master, to defray the expence thereof.

The Lodge closed in good harmony, to meet again on Monday, the 31st day of December next, unless, &c.

DECEMBER SESSION, 1792.

TRENTON, December 31, 5792.

Agreeably to adjournment the Grand Lodge met, and a Master Masons Lodge was opened in due form.

PRESENT.

R. W. JOHN BEATTY, Grand Master.
HON. ELISHA LAWRENCE, Senior Warden, p. t.
FRANKLIN DAVENPORT, Junior Warden, p. t.
MASKELL EWING, ESQ., Grand Secretary.
THOMAS BULLMAN, Grand Treasurer.
JONATHAN DOAN, Senior Deacon.
ALMARINE BROOKS, Junior Deacon.

No representation from Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.

No representation from St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

No representation from Trinity Lodge, No. 3.

John Howell, Senior Warden, John Stotesburg, Junior Warden, Hiram Lodge, No. 4.

Richard Howell, Senior Warden, Isaac DeCou, Junior Warden, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

No representation from Union Lodge, No. 6.

Elisha Rittenhouse, Master, Daniel Bray, Past Master, Jonathan Doan, Unity Lodge, No. 7.

No representation from Harmony Lodge, No. 8.

Almarine Brooks, Senior Warden, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

No representation from Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10.

Franklin Davenport, Master, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.

Past Masters—Dr. Nicholas Bellville, Joseph Read, Esq., Anthony Reckless.

Julian Secard, Nicholas Wyncoop, Reading Beatty, James Raggee.

A motion was made and seconded, that the 3d Section of the 5th Chapter of the Rules and Regulations be exacted against Hiram Lodge, No. 4, for not being heretofore represented, as was required by that rule.

Whereupon an excuse was set forth by their deputies why they were not represented, which was deemed satisfactory.

A minute of Trenton Lodge, No. 5, was read, offering the use of their Lodge-room, jewels, &c., to the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Master reports:

That since the last Communication, viz: on the 17th and 19th of October, he visited St. John's Lodge, No. 2, and Union Lodge, No. 6; that the Junior Grand Warden was notified to attend him, but was prevented by the interposition of business that could not be avoided; that he found the brethren of St. John's Lodge numerous and respectable, its officers intelligent and active, and the members zealously attached to the principles of Masonry. He mentions with particular pleasure the growing state, good order and symmetry of this Lodge. The officers and brethren of Union Lodge, tho' few in number, merit much commendation for their exertions in supporting the reputation and dignity of the Craft, under several adverse circumstances, and the Grand Master flatters himself, that in their perseverance to cultivate those noble and benevolent principles

which have ever adorned the Masonic character, this Lodge will rise to more eminence and usefulness. The mode of working in both of these Lodges appear to be strictly consonant to the usages of Ancient Masons.

JOHN BEATTY.

Which report was read, and ordered to be filed.

Brother Samuel W. Stockton, Senior Grand Warden, being absent from the Lodge, the Grand Master presented a letter from him, apologizing for his absence, being in Philadelphia on public business, which was satisfactory to the Lodge.

A letter of Brother A. G. Fraunces, St. Louis Lodge, No. 53, Pennsylvania, offering to present, for the acceptance of this Lodge, a canopy formerly belonging to a Grand Lodge, was read, and referred for consideration this afternoon.

The Lodge proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year; whereupon,

The Honorable Right Worshipful John Beatty, Grand Master.

The Worshipful Robert L. Hooper, Deputy Grand Master.

Samuel W. Stockton, Esq., Senior Grand Warden.

The Honorable Elisha Lawrence, Junior Grand Warden.

Maskell Ewing, Esq., Secretary.

William Tindall, Deputy Secretary.

Joseph Read, Esq., Treasurer.

The several officers having been duly installed, took their places in the Lodge.

Brother Elijah Rittenhouse, the Master elect of Unity Lodge, No. 6, attending, was installed in due form.

Brother Richard Howell, from the Committee appointed to draught general Rules of Charity, brought in a report, as follows:

The committee appointed to report rules and regulations for the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge, beg leave to submit the following report:

1. That there shall be a standing Committee of Charity, which shall consist of the Right Worshipful Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, and the Master of Trenton Lodge, No. 5, a majority of whom shall be authorized to do business.

2. The duty of this committee shall be to meet in the city of Trenton as often as shall be necessary, to receive such applications as may be presented from distressed brethren, on notice given by the brother to whom such application shall be made; and if the application shall be found de-

serving, shall afford them such relief as, in the opinion of the committee, may be proper, according to the circumstances of the fund and situation of the applicants; *provided*, the sum do not exceed five pounds to any one applicant.

3. That the Grand Treasurer shall pay the orders of the said committee, signed by the presiding officer, or by the Grand Secretary, by order of said committee, charging the Charity Fund therewith.

4. That the said committee shall keep minutes of their proceedings, which shall be read before the Grand Lodge at every Communication.

By order, AARON D. WOODRUFF,
RICHARD HOWELL,
WILLIAM FRAZER.

Which report being read, was agreed to.

The Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until 6 o'clock, P. M.

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6 O'CLOCK, P. M.,

The Lodge was called to labor.

Present as before, except Brother Belleville.

Ordered, That unless John Reading, who appealed from the decision of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, come forward at the next Communication, and shew cause why he did not prosecute his appeal at this Communication, that the same be dismissed.

Ordered, That the Secretary of this Lodge procure aprons for the officers thereof, of white leather edged with blue silk fringe, and otherwise adorned in a Masonic manner.

The letter of Brother Francis was taken into consideration.

Ordered, That the present of Brother Francis be accepted; that the Secretary receive the same, and that he return him the unanimous thanks of the Lodge.

A minute of Trenton Lodge, No. 5, offering the room, furniture and jewels for the use of the Grand Lodge, was read, and the thanks of this Lodge ordered to be communicated by the Secretary to Trenton Lodge, for their obliging offer.

Ordered, That Brother, the Grand Secretary, Aaron D. Woodruff, Richard Howell and Aaron Dunham, be appointed a Committee of Correspondence.

Ordered, That Brother Dunham, Woodruff and Stelle, who were appointed to settle the late Treasurer, Brother Bullman's accounts, be con-

tinued, and that they make a final settlement of Brother Bullman's accounts, and that the late Treasurer pay to the present Grand Treasurer the balance of his accounts.

On motion,

Ordered, That the Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey be directed to subscribe the sum of two hundred dollars to the subscription already begun for building a Lodge in the city of Trenton, by No. 5, to and for the exclusive use of the Grand Lodge, whenever they shall see proper to convene therein.

A motion was made that the returns from the several Lodges represented, and not delivered, be left with the Grand Secretary, and that he require like returns from the several Lodges, agreeably to rule.

The Lodge closed in good harmony, to meet again on St. John's Day, which will be the 24th of June next.

JUNE SESSION, 1793.

TRENTON, June 24, 5793.

The Grand Lodge met agreeably to adjournment.

PRESENT.

HON. & R. W. JOHN BEATTY, Grand Master.
SAMUEL W. STOCKTON, ESQ., Senior Grand Warden.
HON. ELISHA LAWRENCE, Junior Grand Warden.
MASKELL EWING, ESQ., Secretary.
JOSEPH READ, ESQ., Treasurer.
AARON HOWELL, Senior Grand Deacon.
JONATHAN RHEA, ESQ., Junior Grand Deacon.

Dr. William McKissack, Master, Dr. Richard Crusen, Solomon Lodge, No. 1.

No deputies attended from St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

Jonathan Rhea, Esq., Master, John Freeman, Trinity Lodge, No. 3.

John Stotesburg, Junior Warden, Hiram Lodge, No. 4.

Aaron Dunham, Esq., Dr. Nicholas Belleville, Aaron Howell, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

No deputies attended from Union Lodge, No. 6.
No " " " Unity Lodge, No. 7.
No " " " Harmony Lodge, No. 8.
No " " " Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
No " " " Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10.
No " " " Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.

VISITING BROTHER—James Griffeth.

Brother Jonathan Rhea, Esq., presented the warrant of Trinity Lodge, No. 3, which he informed he had orders to return to this Lodge, and prayed the indulgence of the Lodge for time to make up their accounts, and assured the Lodge that all monies due the Lodge should be honorably and punctually paid.

Ordered, That the warrant be accepted and that the Lodge be endulged agreeably to their request.

The Secretary informed the Lodge that he had written to Brother Fraunces respecting the canopy offered to be presented to the Lodge at the last meeting, but Brother Fraunces having removed from Philadelphia to New York, he could not call on him, and that he had not received the same.

Ordered, That Brother John N. Cumming be requested to call on Brother Fraunces for the receipt thereof, and that he communicate to Brother Fraunces the unanimous thanks of this Lodge for the same.

Brothers Dunham, Woodruff and Stelle, appointed to settle Brother Bullman's accounts as late Grand Treasurer, is continued with like powers, and they are desired to examine Brother Bullman's accounts and report thereon at the next Communication.

A petition from a number of Master Masons in the town of Paterson, praying that a warrant may be issued to Joseph Wallis, Master, Joseph Scott, Senior Warden, and William Matthews, Junior Warden, to hold a Lodge there, to be called Paterson Orange Lodge.

A motion was made and seconded, that Brothers John N. Cumming, John Stotesburg and Nehemiah Wade, be appointed a committee to enquire into and report the expediency of complying with their request.

The appeal of John Reading to this Lodge, not having been pursued,

Ordered, That the same be dismissed.

A motion was made and seconded, that an address be prepared and sent to our Brother Richard Howell, who has lately been preferred to the appointment of Governor of this state, and a committee was appointed to draw one accordingly.

The Lodge was called from labor to refreshment.

The Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

The Worshipful, from a committee appointed to draw an address to Brother Howell, presented a draught, which was agreed to, in the following words:

To our worthy Brother Richard Howell, Governor of New Jersey:

The Grand Lodge of New Jersey now met, with respect and fraternal affection, claim the seasonable opportunity of testifying their approbation of your late appointment to the government. When they do this justice to your merit, they at the same time flatter themselves that it will not be the least welcome congratulation.

It comes from the representatives of all the Lodges of Ancient York Masons of this state. It comes from the hearts of your brethren, who regard you not so much for your present station as first magistrate, but as being one of the brightest stars in the Masonic Constellation. Continue to enlighten our paths and to shed that harmonious influence over our works and Communications, which we have the most perfect confidence you have not more in your power than inclination. We anticipate that in the course of your administration, justice and rectitude will be conspicuous, that your light will so shine before men and your conduct be so acceptable, as long to ensure you the public suffrage.

Signed in and by order of the Lodge.

JOHN BEATTY, G. M.
SAMUEL W. STOCKTON, S. G. W.
ELISHA LAWRENCE, J. G. W.

June 24, 5793.

Which was agreed to and presented.

The answer of Brother Richard Howell to the address of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Jersey:

Right Worshipful Grand Master and the rest of the Brethren of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Jersey:

The interest you take in my late appointment, and the brotherly affection with which you are pleased to approve of the honorable distinction I have received from our fellow citizens, for a moment reconciles me to the hazards I encounter. Arduous is the task to hold the balance even, when subject to the brass of passion or affection, but all the powers I

have are consecrated to our common country. Thus honored by the recollection of the worthy representatives of all the Lodges of this state, strange it would be if your congratulations could be less than the most welcome! To be upon the level with such Masons, exalts me beyond the reach of common dignities; but to be connected as I am—that I am not a stranger to your hearts, enlivens every prospect now before me. The ancient and honorable order which I am happy to belong to, in common with the very respectable members of the Grand Lodge, has long employed my reflection as well as my regard, and from the true spirit of our principles, even stripped of every ceremonial, I find it embraces the purest morality, accompanied by every social virtue: Wisdom in deed, contrived to veil from profane eyes, under impenetrable forms, true and substantial good, pure faith, bright hope and balmy charity. Upon the first we found the broad structure of human happiness; the second is the cape-stone which crowns the edifice, and eradiates the tempests of adversity; the last, the greatest of the three, embraces all the virtuous of mankind, heaven-born charity. True parent of Masonic love, the fairest offspring of Mesourania, pervade my soul! If I have felt Masonic principles, and can be bound by them, I know my obligations to you all, and shall carry an impression of your favor along with my existence. I will try to poise the plummet with a steady hand, to make the square set easy, and circumscribe my conduct with due bounds; but if I fail, 'tis human, and my heart shall never be to blame.

Enlightened Sirs and Brethren, may your collective virtues distil on our societies as the dews of Hermon; may prejudice vanish before you, and the bright path you pursue reflect Masonic splendor on us all.

June 24, 1794. RICHARD HOWELL.

The Grand Master informed the Lodge that he had received a minute from Trenton Lodge, No. 5, offering their room, jewels, &c., for the use of the Grand Lodge, which was read.

Ordered, That the thanks of the Lodge be communicated to Lodge No. 5, for the use of the same.

The Grand Master reports:

That since the last Communication he has visited Unity Lodge, No. 7, and Solomon's Lodge, No. 1; that he found both those Lodges numerous and respectable, their officers zealous and attentive, and the members in general emulous and intelligent. The Grand Master having experienced such reciprocal pleasure in his communications with the Lodges he has had occasion to visit, and observing the animation it has excited in the individual members to appear worthy of the vocation with which they are called, he is solicitous that the Injunction contained in the 1st Sec. of the 2d Chap. be in future more strictly attended to.

JOHN BEATTY, 24th June, 5793.

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary write a Circular Letter to the several Lodges desiring a more punctual attendance of Representatives from the several Lodges in the Grand Lodge, and greater care in making returns.

The Lodge closed in good harmony, to meet again at this place on Monday, the 6th day of January next.

JANUARY SESSION, 1794.

TRENTON, January 6, 5794.

Agreeably to adjournment at the last meeting the Grand Lodge met, and a Master Masons Lodge was opened in due form.

PRESENT.

W. SAMUEL W. STOCKTON, S. G. W., in the chair as Master, p. t.

DR. WILLIAM McKISSACK, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.

A. D. WOODRUFF, ESQ., Junior Grand Warden, p. t.

MASKELL EWING, ESQ., Grand Secretary.

PONTEAS DELAREE STELLE, Grand Treasurer, p. t.

ELIJAH RITTENHOUSE, Senior Deacon.

JAMES HOPKINS, Junior Deacon.

Dr. William McKissack, Master, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.

Dr. William Burnet, Dr. Thomas Griffith, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

No representation from Hiram Lodge, No. 4.

Aaron D. Woodruff, Esq., Master, Jonathan Rhea, Esq., Junior Warden, Ponteas Delaree Stelle, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

No representation from Union Lodge, No. 6.

Elijah Rittenhouse, John Midrum, Jacob Snyder, Unity Lodge, No. 7.

Thomas Armstrong, Senior Warden, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.

No representation from Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

No representation from Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10.

Franklin Davenport, Esq., Master, James Hopkins, Junior Warden, Champion Wood, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.

General Anthony W. White, Master, from Dispensation granted to hold a Lodge at New Brunswick.

PAST MASTERS.—His Excellency Richard Howell, Governor of New Jersey, John Holmes.

John Snyder, Esq., Jonathan Willis, Aaron Dunham, Esq.

Brother Woodruff, from the committee appointed to settle the accounts of Brother Thomas Bullman, late Treasurer, brought in a report in the following words.

The Grand Lodge of New Jersey in account with Thomas Bullman, Grand Treasurer:

DR.

5791.					
Jan. 11.	To cash rec'd of	Solomon's Lodge, No. 1	£3	0	0
	" "	St. John's Lodge, No. 2	3	0	0
	" "	Trenton Lodge, No. 5	6	8	0
	" "	Unity Lodge, No. 7	2	18	0
	" "	Harmony Lodge, No. 8	2	11	8
	" "	Brother R. Howell, for a Warrant of Brearley Lodge, No. 9, Cumberland	10	0	0
June 24.	" "	Trenton Lodge, No. 5	5	10	0
	" "	No. 1	2	2	0
	" "	No. 4	3	19	0
	" "	No. 7	2	5	0
	" "	No. 9		15	0
	" "	No. 3	2	0	0
Sept 8.	" "	Brother Burnett, for a Warrant of Nova Cæsarea Lodge	10	0	0

CR.

5791.					
Jan. 11.	By Cash paid	the Tyler, by order of the Right Worshipful Grand Master	£1	10	0
	" "	Brother Isaac De Cou		11	3
June 24.	" "	Barnabas Murphy, per order of the Grand Secretary	1	17	6
	" "	D. Wrighter, for tyling the Grand Lodge, No. 3	1	10	0
Sept. 8.	" "	D. Wrighter, for tyling the Grand Lodge, No. 4		15	0
Dec. 27.	" "	D. Wrighter, for tyling Grand Lodge, No. 5, as per bill		12	8
	" "	D. Wrighter, for tyling Grand Lodge, No. 6	1	10	0
	" "	M. Ewing, Grand Secretary	1	13	6
	" "	Wm. R. Bellamy, per order	1	2	6
	" "	Brother Frazier, per order of the Right Worshipful Grand Master	4	10	0
	" "	for paper, &c		2	6

Ordered, That Brothers Woodruff, Stelle, and Dunham be appointed to complete the settlement of that part of Brother Bullman's account as mentioned to be unsettled in the hands of Brother De Cou.

The Grand Secretary reports that he has sent forward a Circular Letter to the several Lodges, agreeably to the order of the Grand Lodge at their last meeting, a copy of which remains on the files, and which he produced and read in his place.

A petition was presented to the Lodge from the Masons of New Brunswick and its vicinity, praying that a warrant may be issued to Brother Anthony Walton White, Master, Joseph Morgan, Senior Warden, Shelley Arnet, Junior Warden, to be called Washington Lodge, No. 12, whereupon

A motion was made and seconded that the prayer of that petition be granted, which was unanimously agreed to.

A minute of Lodge No. 2 was presented, suspending Henry Duplessis from the benefit of Masonry, which was ordered to be communicated.

The lodge was called from labor to refreshment during pleasure.

The Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

The Lodge proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, whereupon

Samuel W. Stockton, Esq., was appointed Grand Master.

John N. Cumming was appointed Deputy Grand Master.

Aaron Dunham, Senior Grand Warden.

Joseph Read, Esq., Junior Grand Warden.

Maskell Ewing, Secretary.

Gershom Craft, Deputy Grand Secretary.

Pontius D. Stelle, Treasurer.

The Lodge proceeded to the installation of Anthony Walton White, as Master of Washington Lodge, No. 12.

William McKissack, as Master of Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.

An. Dn. Woodruff, as Master of Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

Franklin Davenport, as Master of Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.

A certificate from the Secretary of Unity Lodge, No. 7, was presented, certifying that they had expelled Aaron Furman from that Lodge.

Ordered, That the same be communicated.

The Lodge proceeded to the installation of the Grand Master, which was done in due form.

Ordered, That Brothers Woodruff, De Cou, and Dunham be a committee to inspect and settle the accounts of Brother Read, the late Grand Treasurer, and that Brother Read pay over the balance in his hands to the Grand Treasurer this day appointed.

An appeal by Brother John Holmes, of Harmony Lodge, No. 8, from the decision of Harmony Lodge, on application of Brother Willis, was laid before the Lodge, with the minutes respecting that business.

It appearing to the Lodge that no judgment of censure or otherwise of Harmony Lodge, No. 8, had been passed against Brother Holmes so as to give cognizance to the Grand Lodge, and the parties having proceeded at common law,

Ordered, That the appeal be dismissed.

Ordered, That the committee respecting the petition from Paterson be continued, and that Brother Burnett be added to the committee.

A motion was made and seconded, that the meeting of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey be held at the city of New Brunswick, which motion was referred for consideration at the next communication.

A motion was made and seconded, That a part of the charity fund be appropriated for the disposal of each Lodge, which was referred for consideration at the next communication.

The Lodge was closed in good harmony, to meet again at this place on the 3d day of July next.

JULY SESSION, 1794.

TRENTON, July 3, 5794.

Agreeably to adjournment at the last meeting, the Grand Lodge met, and a Master Masons Lodge was opened in due form

PRESENT.

W. AARON DUNHAM, Esq., S. G. W., the Grand Master being absent, in the Chair as G. M. p. t.
JOSEPH READ, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
WILLIAM McKISSACK, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
BERNARD HANLON, Senior Deacon.
JOHN DOUGHERTY, Junior Deacon.
MASKELL EWING, Secretary.
PONTIUS D. STELLE, Treasurer.

Doctor Wm. McKissack, George McDonald, Esq., Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.

No representation from St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

John Stotesbury, Hiram Lodge, No. 4.

Aaron Dn. Woodruff, Esq., Master, Jonathan Rhea, Esq., Senior Warden, Rev. Wm. Frazer, from Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

No representation from Union Lodge, No. 6.

John Meldrum, Unity Lodge, No. 7.

No representation from Harmony Lodge, No. 8.

General James Giles, Master, Almarine Brooks, Senior Warden, Zechariah Lawrence, Junior Warden, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

No representation from Nova Cæsaria Lodge, No. 10.

Franklin Davenport, Esq., Elisha Clark, Esq., Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.
Aaron Hassart, Christian De Wint, Washington Lodge, No. 12.

Entitled to a seat in the Grand Lodge, as having been present at the first Convention:

General Joseph Bloomfield, P. M.

Gen. John Beatty, P. G. M.
His Excellency Gov. Rd. Howell, P.G. M.
James Hopkins, P. M.
Anthony Reckless, P. M.

The Worshipful laid before the Lodge a letter from the Right Worshipful Grand Master, apologising for his non-attendance, which was satisfactory.

Brother Woodruff from the Committee appointed to settle the accounts of Brother Joseph Read, late Grand Treasurer, brought in a report as follows:

Grand Lodge of New Jersey in account with Joseph Read, Grand Treasurer.

5793.		Dr.				JERSEY PAPER.
June 24.	To Cash	paid Grand Master Beatty, per receipt.....	£2	5	0	
"	"	paid Bro. D. Wrighter, Grand Tyler, per order G. M.....	1	12	0	
Sept. 5.	"	paid Bro. A. D. Woodruff, on account of the subscription towards building the new Lodge in Trenton.....	75	0	0	
Dec. 28.	"	paid F. K., a poor distressed brother, by order of the Charity Committee of the G. L.....		15	0	
5794. Jan. 8.	"	paid Pontius Delaree Stelle, present Grand Treasurer.....	58	18	7	
						£138 10 7

5793.		Cr.				JERSEY PAPER.
June 24.	By Cash	of Bro. Wm. McKissack, of Solomon's Lodge, in part of dues.....	£7	16	0	
"	"	of Bro. An. Dunham, for dues of No. 5.....	3	18	0	
"	"	of Bro. An. Dunham, for bal. in his hands as late G. T.....	13	17	10	
"	"	of Bro. John Stotesbury, dues of Hiram Lodge.....	2	6	0	
Sept. 5.	"	of Bro. A. Woodruff.....	45	8	3	
"	"	of P. D. Stelle, in part of monies received by him from Bro. Bullman, late G. T.....	29	11	9	
5794. Jan. 6.	"	of Bro. Stelle the residue of do.	35	12	9	
						£138 10 7

We the Committee appointed by the Grand Lodge of New Jersey for the purpose of settling the account of Brother Read, late Grand Treasurer, do report that they have examined the same, and do find a balance in his hands of the sum of fifty-eight pounds eighteen shillings and seven pence, as above stated, January 8, 5794.

Aaron Dickinson Woodruff,
Isaac De Cou,
Aaron Dunham.

Which report was read and ordered to lie on the table.

A minute of Harmony Lodge, No. 8, setting forth that the said Lodge had proceeded to expel Brother John Holmes from

that Lodge, was presented and read, in which minute is set forth that the said John Holmes did at the meeting of the said Lodge on the 30th of May last, declare that he appealed from the decision of the said Lodge, that in consequence thereof the Secretary was ordered to furnish him and Brother Jonathan Willis, who was present, with a copy of the minutes and all the proceedings thereon, a copy of which, the Grand Secretary assured the Lodge, was forwarded to him immediately thereafter.

Ordered, That the said appeal and the hearing thereon be postponed.

The Lodge was called from labor to refreshment.

---

1 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Lodge was again called to labor.

Brother Woodruff, from the committee appointed to settle that part of Brother Bullman's accounts which remained unsettled in the hands of Brother De Cou, reported that for many reasons the committee had not been able to proceed.

Ordered, That they be continued.

The committee respecting the petition from Paterson not having reported,

Ordered, That they be continued.

The motion made and seconded that the meeting of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey should hereafter be held at the city of New Brunswick, and left open to be determined at the last meeting, was taken into consideration.

On the question, whether the house agree to have the Grand Lodge removed to New Brunswick agreeably to the said motion? It was carried in the negative.

The Lodge again resumed the consideration of the minute from Harmony Lodge, read this morning, whereupon,

It appearing from the face of the proceedings of Harmony Lodge at a meeting held the 14th of April, 5794, as produced to the Grand Communication, that none of the officers and but six of the members of that Lodge were present when they proceeded to expel Brother Holmes,

Resolved, That the proceedings of the said Lodge at that meeting be reconsidered by the said Lodge at some future stated meeting, and that for this purpose all the members have due notice to attend.

Resolved, That in case the Lodge upon a reconsideration of the said proceedings should not be of opinion to rescind them, that the appeal of Brother Holmes be considered as pending before and will be heard by the next half yearly communication.

The Worshipful laid before the Lodge "The Report of Samuel W. Stockton, Grand Master," as follows:

The Grand Master begs leave to report, that since the last communication, to wit, on the evening the third Wednesday in April last, he, together with the Deputy Grand Master, visited St. John's Lodge, No. 2. It was not a stated night, but the Worshipful Master of that Lodge with great politeness and promptitude called a Lodge of Emergency, and we had every reason to believe that the brethren who could get notice attended very generally. We were well satisfied with the brightness, skill, and ability of the Worshipful, apparent in his examinations and directions, and also of the great readiness and harmony of the brethren in conducting the several parts of their Work. After the Lodge was called off from labor to refreshment we remarked with peculiar pleasure that temperance and discretion mixed with sociable intercourse which serves as well to expand and ameliorate the heart as to keep us within due bounds.

The Grand Master further reports that on the 24th instant he visited Unity Lodge, No. 7, and was happy to find order and regularity, the manner of working agreeable to ancient usage, and a zeal to improve apparent among the brethren. On this day there was a procession which had been some time ago agreed on by that Lodge, and was attended by its members as well as a number of visiting brothers, principally from Solomon's Lodge, No. 1. The procession was conducted with regularity and good order, and an excellent sermon, well adapted to the occasion, was preached by our Rev. Brother Frazer, for which the thanks of the brethren were voted.

The Grand Master would beg leave to suggest one remark with respect to processions in general:—That they ought not to be frequent, but when two-thirds of any Lodge determine on having one agreeably to our rules and regulations, the brethren of other Lodges who can attend with convenience should make a point of visiting on such occasions, that the processions may be as numerous and respectable as possible, and the public mind thereby favorably impressed towards Masonry.

SAMUEL W. STOCKTON.

The Worshipful Brother Beatty, Past Grand Master, reported

That in conformity with his duty he had visited in August last, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1, and Hiram Lodge, No. 4, and should have reported this transaction at the last communication, but was absent from the State on public business. He is now happy to observe to the Grand Lodge that he had much satisfaction in his intercourse with these Lodges and found them in a state of order, harmony and improvement.

The Worshipful laid before the Lodge a report of Brother Read, as follows:

To the Grand Lodge of New Jersey:

I beg leave to report that in pursuance of the directions contained in the 1st Section of the 2d Chapter of the General Regulations, I did on the sixteenth day of June last past, visit the Lodge at Woodbury, No. 11; that I was received with every mark of polite attention and brotherly affection by the officers and members of the said Lodge, who were generally convened on that occasion; that considerable business was done therein, and I am happy to observe that particular regard was paid to the landmarks of Masonry, and the Master discovered that degree of information and zeal, and executed the duties of his office with that promptitude and accuracy which does honor to the Institution.

JOSEPH READ, J. G. W.

On motion,

Resolved, That Brothers Bloomfield, Woodruff and Rhea be a committee to examine the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary's accounts and report thereon at the next communication.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Masters of Lodges within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge be hereafter installed in their own Lodges, a resolution heretofore passed to the contrary notwithstanding.

The Grand Secretary reported that no representation from Union Lodge, No. 6, having appeared for three successive communications,

Ordered, That he be directed to consider the said Lodge as struck off the list of Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and to send a copy of this minute to the late Master of said Lodge.

The Lodge closed in due harmony, to meet again at Trenton, on Tuesday, the 30th of December next.

DECEMBER SESSION, 1794.

TRENTON, December 30, 5794.

The Grand Lodge met, and a Master Masons Lodge was opened in due form.

PRESENT.

R. W. SAMUEL W. STOCKTON, ESQ-, Grand Master.
GEN. JOHN N. CUMMING, Deputy Grand Master.
AARON DN. WOODRUFF, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
DANIEL BRAY, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
MASKELL EWING, Grand Secretary.
PONTIUS DELAREE STELLE, Grand Treasurer.
JONATHAN RHEA, ESQ., Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
ELIJAH RITTENHOUSE, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.

No representation from Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.
Gen. J. L. Cumming, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
No representation from Hiram Lodge, No. 4.
Aaron Dn. Woodruff, Esq., Master, Rev. Wm. Frazer, Robt. L. Hooper, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
Daniel Bray, Master, Elijah Rittenhouse, Junior Warden, Unity Lodge, No. 7.
No representation from Harmony Lodge, No. 8.
Robert Rockhill, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
No representation from Cæsaria Lodge, No. 10.
No representation from Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.
Walter Kerr Cole, Esq., Washington Lodge, No. 12.
VISITING BROTHER—George Walker.

Ordered, That the Treasurer be instructed to receive the dues to the Grand Lodge in specie at the rate of 8*s*. the dollar, until the further order of the Lodge.

The account of Brother Read, reported at the last communication, was agreed to.

Ordered, That he pay the balance in his hands to the present Grand Treasurer.

The Lodge proceeded to the election of Grand Officers, whereupon

The Worshipful Samuel W. Stockton was appointed Grand Master.

Gen. John N. Cumming, Deputy Grand Master.

Aaron Dunham, Senior Grand Warden.

Joseph Read, Junior Grand Warden.

Maskell Ewing, Grand Secretary.

Gershom Craft, Esq., Deputy Grand Secretary.

Pontius Delaree Stelle, Grand Treasurer.

The petition of the Masons of Paterson was read and referred to the next meeting of the Grand Lodge.

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary do write to the late Master to return the dispensation issued to them and inform him that the Grand Lodge directs that no other dispensation be issued or warrant granted until the next meeting of the Grand Lodge.

Ordered, That the appeal of Brother Holmes be continued to the next meeting.

Ordered, That the committee appointed to settle the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer's accounts be continued to the next meeting.

On motion of Brother Cole, seconded by Brother Cumming, it is proposed that the Grand Lodge do alternately meet at the city of New Brunswick and Trenton.

Brother Cumming made the following motion, viz.: That in future all payments made to the Grand Lodge be in specie or the value thereof, and that the accounts of the Treasurer be kept in dollars and cents, and that the quarterly dues be 12½ cents, the warrant 25 dollars, and all other dues in the same proportion.

On motion made and seconded,

Ordered, That a correct statement of the accounts of the Grand Lodge be made out for the inspection of the representatives who may attend at the next communication.

Brothers Bray and Woodruff were installed in due form as Masters of their respective Lodges.

The Lodge closed in good harmony, to meet again on Wednesday, the 1st day of July next.

JULY SESSION, 1795.

TRENTON, July 1, 5795.

The Grand Lodge met, and a Master Masons Lodge was opened in due form.

PRESENT.

W. AARON DUNHAM, ESQ., S. G. W., Grand Master, p. t.
JOSEPH READ, ESQ., J. G. W., Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
WILLIAM McKISSACK, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
MASKELL EWING, Grand Secretary.
PONTIUS D. STELLE, Grand Treasurer
FRANKLIN DAVENPORT, ESQ., Senior Deacon.
THOMAS ARMSTRONG, Junior Deacon.

William McKissack, Master, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.

No representation from St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

No representation from Hiram Lodge, No. 4.

Aaron Dn. Woodruff, Master, Jonathan Rhea, Junior Warden, William Frazer, Secretary, Aaron Howell, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

No representation from Unity Lodge, No. 7.

Thomas Anderson, Esq., Master, Thomas Armstrong, Senior Warden, Hiram Lodge, No. 8.

Robert Rockhill, Secretary, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

No representation from Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10.

Franklin Davenport, Esq., Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.

Joseph Morgan, Senior Warden, Christian D. Wint, Esq., Andrew Lyle, Washington Lodge, No. 12.

Visiting Past Masters and persons entitled to vote, having been present at the Convention at New Brunswick:

General Joseph Bloomfield, John Beatty, Esq., Past Grand Master.

PAST MASTERS—Dr. Nicholas Belleville, Anthony Reckless, General William Maxwell.

It appearing on the information of Brother Anderson of Harmony Lodge, No. 8, that the order of this Lodge on the appeal of Brother Holmes, of the 3d of July, 5794, had not been delivered to that Lodge,

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary do make out an extract of the minutes made at that time, and transmit the same to the Master of Harmony Lodge, No. 8, and that the appeal be considered as pending and will be heard before the Grand Lodge at the next Communication.

The motion of Brother Cumming was taken up and agreed to as follows: "That in future, all payments made to the Grand Lodge be in specie or the value thereof, and that the accounts of the Treasurer be kept in dollars and cents, and that the quarterly dues be 12½ cents, the warrant 25 dollars, and all other dues in the same proportion."

The Lodge was called from labor to refreshment.

The Lodge was again called from refreshment to labor.

A statement from the Treasurer, agreeably to order, was laid before the Lodge, by which it appears that there was, previous to this day, £114, 1s, 3d, in his hands.

The petition from Paterson, praying a warrant may issue to the brethren there to hold a Lodge, was again, agreeably to order, taken up, whereupon,

Ordered, That the former committee be discharged and that Brother Cumming, Brother Burnet and Brother David Ogden, be appointed a committee to report the expediency of granting a warrant agreeably to the application from Paterson, and that the Secretary inform Brother Wallace of this order, and that it is expected the above named committee will report at the next Communication and that the application will then be heard and decided on.

The Lodge took into consideration the motion of Brother Cole, seconded by Cummings, respecting the alternate meeting of the Lodge, and the question being put, it was carried in the negative.

The Grand Treasurer, having reported that the sum of £114, 1s, 3d, remains in his hands unappropriated,

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge will, at the next Communication, dispose of this money, either by loan or otherwise, and that the Secretary be requested to give information to the Lodges not at present represented, of this their extended disposition.

On motion,

Ordered, That Brothers R. Howell, A. D. Woodruff, Dunham and M. Ewing, be a Committee of Correspondence.

The communication from Edward Day, Master of Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10, was read and referred to Brothers R. Howell, A. D. Woodruff, Dunham and M. Ewing, the Committee

of Correspondence and with directions particularly to declare in answer to the said communications, the approbation of the Grand Lodge of their conduct, and that the Grand Secretary make out a general abstract of the returns of Masons under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge and forward the same, and that the Lodge will provide for defraying the expense thereof.

CINCINNATI, 15th March, S. L. 5795.

Right Worshipful Brethren:

It appears from statements made to me since my arrival, that in the beginning of the year 5791, your Right Worshipful Body was solicited for a warrant to constitute a Lodge in this place.

It further appears that this favor was granted by you, at Trenton, the 8th of September, 5791, in which you have been pleased to nominate Dr. William Burnet, Master, John Ludlow, Senior Warden, and Calvin Morrel, Junior Warden. This charter, for reasons known to all of us, has been detained until December last, and then without the presence of our Brother Dr. Burnet. It further appears that our Brother John Ludlow, from some domestic considerations of a very peculiar nature, refused to give aid in organizing this Chapter. In this situation was things at the arrival of your warrant.

The Masons of this place, after various consultations, determined to do what appeared to be their duty. They were poor, affectionate and honest in their intentions.

They wanted aid in many things; they knew of no Lodge, at that time, nearer than Pittsburgh, say 500 miles, tho' they have since discovered one at the distance of 300 miles and one other, the nearest, at 100 miles. From none of these could help be reasonably expected, besides report whispered they were irregular. Our Constitution tells us "The Craft shall not be injured for want of officers, however valuable, when impossible to give their attendance."

Resolutions were made to choose officers in the room of the absentees. The circumstances were imperious. A unanimous voice placed me as President of this little Society, and Brother John S. Gano, Senior Warden. The installation was a difficulty only to be obviated by Brothers Wallen and Allen, who were Past Masters and Royal Arch Masons, and well knew their duty on this occasion. Brother Isaac Guion, the present Master of the Army Lodge, happened here and promoted their work by uniting his labors.

This essential ceremony was well known to myself, who have been initiated into the sublime degrees of Masonry as far as that of a Knight of Malta, and have been, since the year 5780, duly received in the different degrees and offices, and have been specially appointed by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, Junior Warden of No. 35, Joppa, in Maryland; was in-

stalled by special deputation, served with satisfaction my full term; have in possession the certificate of the Grand Lodge in ample form, signed by Brother Joseph Howell, Jr., and dated the 20th of September, 5784, and which the bearer, Brother Gano, will certify. Since that time, in different states of the Union, I have been honored with further advancements in Masonry, and now fill the chair in No. 10, under your jurisdiction.

Our proceedings and By-Laws are copied from our commencement, and with due reverence and submission, will be laid before you by the Senior Warden, who will pay all dues claimed from us by your Right Worshipful Grand Lodge, whose countenance, support and protection we earnestly solicit, begging that we may receive your instructions and half-yearly Communications, and be enrolled with other Lodges under your government.

This establishment has been attended with considerable pains and expense considering the poverty of the members, and our perilous situation in an enemy's country.

Nevertheless we presume that so far, we are honest in heart, regular in action, harmonious in living, we humbly hope for your approbation. It is already anticipated; should rigid discipline require more, severe exactions will cast a gloom on every brow and happiness banished from this little band of social brothers.

In future our proceedings will be regularly forwarded for your inspection with an unquestionable punctuality, together with our dues, and on your justice and mercy we rest our cause, believing you to be our Right Worshipful Grand Lodge, our guardians and our brethren, with all reverence and submission. I am with affection, your friend and brother.

EDWARD DAY,
Master of Lodge No. 10.

Moved and seconded,

That the expense of the officers of the Grand Lodge in attending the Lodge, be paid out of the funds of the Grand Lodge.

Left open for consideration at the next Communication.

The Grand Lodge closed in good harmony to meet here again on the second Tuesday in January next.

JANUARY SESSION, 1796.

TRENTON, January 12, 5796.

The Grand Lodge met and a Master Masons Lodge was opened in due form.

PRESENT.

W. JOHN N. CUMMING, D. G. M., Grand Master, p. t.
AARON DUNHAM, Esq., Senior Warden.
AARON D. WOODRUFF, Esq., Junior Warden, p. t.
MASKELL EWING, Grand Secretary.
PONTIUS D. STELLE, Grand Treasurer.
PETER KEENON, Senior Grand Deacon,
ISRAEL HEDDEN, Junior Grand Deacon.

No representation from Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.

Israel Hedden, Esq., Past Master, James Hedden, Senior Warden, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

No representation from Hiram Lodge, No. 4.

Aaron D. Woodruff, Esq., Master, Jonathan Rhea, Senior Warden, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

Daniel Bray, Master, Elijah Rittenhouse, Senior Warden, Cornelius Coolbough, Junior Warden, Unity Lodge, No. 7.

Thomas Anderson, Master, John Johnson, Senior Warden, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.

Capt. Enos Johnson, Senior Warden, Maj. George Howell, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

No representation from Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10.

No representation from Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.

John Parker, Esq., Peter Keenon, Washington Lodge, No. 12.

Past Master—Daniel McElheren, Joseph Willis.

David Ross,	Reading Beatty,	Jona. Johnson,
Zadoc Hedden,	Dr. Wynekoop,	Jona. Doan,
William Grant,	John D. Murry, Esq.,	Jona. Willis.

The Secretary informed the Lodge that he had, agreeably to the order of the Lodge at the last meeting, served Harmony Lodge, No. 8, with an extract of the minutes made on the 3d of July, 5794; whereupon Brother Anderson presented a minute of Harmony Lodge, of the 28th of September, 5795.

A letter from Brother Holmes was read, dated New York, 8th of January, 5796, praying that the decision on the appeal brought forward by him may be postponed until the next meeting, whereupon,

The Lodge agreed to proceed to hear the testimony and de termine the appeal.

On the question, whether the Lodge will confirm the decision of Harmony Lodge, No. 8, it was carried unanimously, in the affirmative.

Brother Cumming, from the committee to whom was referred the application from Masons in the town of Paterson for a warrant, reported favorably, whereupon,

The petition from Paterson, praying a warrant, was read.

Ordered, That a warrant do issue agreeably to the prayer of the said petition, by the name of Paterson Orange Lodge, No. 13.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of Grand Officers, whereupon,

The Worshipful John N. Cumming was unanimously appointed Grand Master.

General Joseph Bloomfield, Deputy Grand Master.

Joseph Read, Esq., Senior Grand Warden.

Israel Hedden, Junior Grand Warden.

P. D. Stelle, Grand Treasurer.

Jacob Benjamin, Esq., Grand Secretary.

William Tindall, Deputy Grand Secretary.

A motion was made and seconded, that the Grand Lodge hereafter shall meet once a year, statedly, for yearly Communications of all the Lodges.

A motion was made and seconded, that the Grand Lodge in future shall sit alternately at Trenton and Newark.

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary be hereafter allowed such reasonable compensation for his services and expenses, as to the Grand Lodge may appear reasonable.

Ordered, That Brothers Howell, A. D. Woodruff, Dunham and Ewing, be the Committee of Correspondence.

Ordered, That Brother Cumming, Brother Rhea and the Grand Treasurer, be a committee to let out the funds of the Grand Lodge, either on loan for lawful interest of New Jersey, on good security, or to vest the same in the public funds, or otherwise, in such way as to them may seem best.

The motion made and seconded, that the expenses of the officers of the Grand Lodge, in attending the Lodge, be paid out of the funds of the Grand Lodge, at the last Communication, was taken into consideration and agreed to so far as to extend to all officers who do not reside within 20 miles of the place where the Grand Lodge shall hold its sitting.

On the application of Brother Andrew G. Fraunces for charity,

Ordered, That the sum of £5 be paid by the Grand Treasurer out of the funds of this Lodge, unto Brother Israel Hedden, to be applied at his discretion for the use of the said Andrew G. Fraunces.

A motion was made and seconded, that the Grand Lodge meet alternately at Trenton and at Newark or New Brunswick, left over for consideration at the next meeting.

The Worshipful laid before the Lodge an account of Brother Ewing for services in bringing up the minutes of the Lodge and cash expended for the Lodge, amounting to eleven pounds, seven shillings and one penny half-penny, which was allowed and the Treasurer directed to pay the same.

The Lodge closed in good harmony, to meet at Trenton, on the 5th day of July next.

JULY SESSION, 1796.

TRENTON, July 5, 5796.

The Grand Lodge met. A Master Masons Lodge was opened in due form.

PRESENT.

R. W. JOHN N. CUMMING, Grand Master.
JOSEPH BLOOMFIELD, Deputy Grand Master.
JOSEPH READ, Senior Grand Warden.
ISRAEL HEDDEN, Junior Grand Warden.
WILLIAM HALSEY, Senior Deacon, p. t.
DANIEL McILHAREN, Junior Deacon, p. t.
JACOB BENJAMIN, Grand Secretary.
P. D. STELLE, Grand Treasurer.

William McKissack, James Linn, John Stevenson, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.

Samuel Hays, William Halsey, Daniel McIlharen, Alpheus Freeman, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

Aaron D. Woodruff, Jona. Rhea, B. Hanlon, Aaron Dunham, N. Belleville, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

Thomas Anderson, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.

James Giles, Almarin Brooks, James D. Westcott, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

Franklin Davenport, Champon Wood, Elisha Clark, Amos Pearce, L. H. Stockton, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.

Anthony W. White, Christian D. Wint, Peter Keenon, Washington Lodge, No. 12.

Brother Thomas Anderson, having presented a petition to the Grand Lodge from the county of Sussex, praying a warrant may be granted and directed to Thomas Armstrong, Master, Frederick Delano, Senior Warden, and Ebenezer Mead, Junior Warden, to hold a Lodge in the township of Wantage, in the said county of Sussex, which being read, the same was ordered to be granted, and which was accordingly issued by the name of Farmers' Lodge, No. 14.

Brother Cumming, from the committee to whom was referred the disposition of the funds of the Grand Lodge, made a report.

The committee to whom was referred the disposition of the funds of the Grand Lodge,

Report, That they have agreed with Trenton Lodge, No. 5, to loan unto them the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds, at an interest of seven per cent., payable quarter yearly, from the first day of March last, they entering into such security as your committee may approve.

By order of the committee,

Dated 5th July, 1796. J. N. Cumming.

Ordered, That the said report be entered and that the said Committee, after they take the security, lodge the same with the Grand Treasurer of this Grand Lodge.

Ordered, That the Deputy Grand Master Bloomfield, Past Grand Master Beatty and Aaron D. Woodruff, Master of Lodge No. 5, be a committee to draught amendments to Chap. 1, of the General Regulations of this Grand Lodge, so as to include as members of the Grand Lodge, such brethren who are Master Masons and deputed under the seal of the respective Lodges, to represent their several Lodges, and such other amendments as may be necessary, respecting who shall be members of the Grand Lodge, and shall be admitted as visiting brethren.

It having been communicated to the Grand Lodge, that two candidates who have been balloted for and rejected, in Woodbury Lodge, No. 11, some time past, had been admitted in some of the Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania,

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary, from time to time, as he shall receive the same, give written information to the Grand Secretaries of Pennsylvania and New York, of the names and places of abode of all such persons as shall have been voted for and rejected in the several Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

The Lodge in the county of Morris, having neglected for three successive Communications or more, to send a representation to the Grand Lodge,

It is Ordered, That the said Lodge be struck off the list and that their warrant be considered as null and void.

The Lodge took into consideration a motion made at the last Communication, that the Grand Lodge meet alternately at Trenton and at Newark or New Brunswick.

On the question, whether the Lodge agree to the said motion? it was carried in the negative.

The Lodge took into consideration a motion made at the last Communication, viz: That the Grand Lodge shall hereafter meet once a year, statedly, for Communications of all the Lodges.

On the question, whether the Lodge agree to the said motion? it was carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That a special meeting of the Grand Lodge be held at Newark, on the 5th of January next, for the purpose of appointing Grand Officers and fixing the day for the first meeting of the Grand Lodge, to be continued annually thereafter, and as the said meeting is for the special purposes aforesaid, it is the sense of the Lodge that at the said meeting, no motion of a general nature, such as may in any manner, involve the question of the place where the Grand Lodge is to be held in future, shall be made or decided upon, or other motion that may affect the General Regulations of the Lodge other than above is expressed.

On motion, the following resolutions were proposed for consideration:

Resolved, That at every annual Communication an oration on the subject of Masonry, be delivered by a brother appointed for the purpose, either in the hall of the Grand Lodge or such other place adjacent to the Lodge, as may be directed.

Resolved, That every Master elect may be installed in a Lodge of Past Masters, any rule or regulation to the contrary notwithstanding.

Resolved, That such of the Lodges within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, which shall make donations to poor and distressed Masons, their widows or orphans, shall have credit for the monies so given out of their

dues to the Grand Lodge, provided the donations do not exceed the one-half of the dues of the Lodge.

Resolved, That no members but the legal representatives of Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, shall have the privilege of voting in the Grand Lodge, excepting those who attended the convention on the formation of the Grand Lodge.

The Lodge closed in good harmony, to meet again at Newark, on the 5th day of January next.

JANUARY SESSION, 1797.

NEWARK, January 5, 5797.

The Grand Lodge met.

PRESENT.

R. W. JOHN N. CUMMING, Grand Master.
JOSEPH READ, Senior Grand Warden.
ISRAEL HEDDEN, Junior Grand Warden.
THOMAS GRIFFITH, Senior Grand Deacon.
MATTHIAS B. HIGGINS, Junior Grand Deacon.
P. D. STELLE, Grand Treasurer.
AARON D. WOODRUFF, Grand Secretary, p. t.

No representation from Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.

Uzal Johnson, Master, Thomas Bibby, Senior Warden, James Hedden, Junior Warden, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

Aaron D. Woodruff, Master, Jonathan Rhea, Senior Warden, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

No representation from Unity Lodge, No. 7.

John Johnson, Senior Warden, Jonathan Willis, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.

No representation from Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

No representation from Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10.

Amos Pearce for Treasurer, Davenport, Master, Thomas Wilkins, Junior Warden, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.

Peter Keenon, Treasurer, Washington Lodge, No. 12.

No representation from Paterson Lodge, No. 13.

No representation from Farmers' Lodge, No. 14.

VISITING BRETHREN FROM ST. JOHN'S LODGE, NO. 2.

John Pintard, P. M.,	John Gifford,	Thomas Gautier,
Wm. Burnet, P. M.,	Jabez Pankhurst,	John Bagget,
William Halsey,	David Ross,	Jacob Burnet.
Matthias B. Higgins,	Thomas Griffith,	

Harmony Lodge, No. 8—Robert Thompson.

Washington Lodge, No. 12—John Parker, Past Master.

A letter was received from the Grand Lodge of the state of Massachusetts, addressed to this Lodge, and transmitted therewith a Book of the Constitutions of the said Grand Lodge, for acceptance of this Lodge, was read.

A letter was also received from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, declaring that certain persons therein named had been expelled from their Lodges.

The committee appointed to loan the funds of the Grand Lodge, not being ready to report,

Ordered, That the said committee be continued and desired to proceed thereon.

The Lodge proceeded to the election of officers of the Grand Lodge for the ensuing year, when

The Right Worshipful John N. Cumming, was unanimously re-appointed Grand Master.

Joseph Bloomfield Deputy Grand Master.

Joseph Read, Senior Grand Warden.

Israel Hedden, Junior Grand Warden.

Jacob Benjamin, Grand Secretary.

Pontius Delare Stelle, Grand Treasurer.

William Tindall, Deputy Grand Secretary,

Brothers Richard Howell, Jonathan Rhea and John Beatty, are appointed a Committee of Correspondence with the usual powers.

Ordered, That Brothers Jonathan Rhea and Aaron Dickinson Woodruff, be a committee to examine the accounts of the Secretary and Treasurer of the Grand Lodge.

On motion,

Resolved, That this Lodge do meet on the second Wednesday of January, annually, and that the election of Grand Officers, be in future had at the said meeting.

Resolved, That the committee appointed to report on certain sections of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge do further report at the next meeting such further amendments as they may think necessary by reason of the vote of this Grand Lodge to meet but once a year.

The Lodge closed in good harmony, to meet again on the second Wednesday of January next.

JANUARY SESSION, 1798.

TRENTON, January —, 5798.

At a Stated meeting of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, held at Trenton on the second Wednesday in January, in the year of light 5798:

PRESENT.

R. W. JOHN N. CUMMING, Grand Master.
JOSEPH READ, Senior Grand Warden.
AARON DUNHAM, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
JACOB BENJAMIN, Grand Secretary.
WM. TINDALL, Deputy Grand Secretary.
P. D. STELLE, Grand Treasurer.
JONA DOAN, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
ELISHA CLARK, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.

John Beatty, P. G. M. Maskell Ewing. Burrowes Smith.

An Entered Apprentices Lodge was opened in due form.

No representation from Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.

Thomas Bibby, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

Aaron D. Woodruff, Jona Rhea, Bernard Hanlon, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

Daniel Bray, Joshua Anderson, Cornelius Coolbaugh, Unity Lodge No. 7.

No representation from Harmony Lodge, No. 8.

Clarence Mulford, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

No representation from Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10.

Franklin Davenport, Joshua Howell, Elisha Clark, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.

No representation from Washington Lodge, No. 12.

No representation from Paterson Lodge, No. 13.

No representation from Farmers Lodge, No. 14.

The committee to whom was referred the disposition of the funds of the Grand Lodge, made a report which was deemed satisfactory, and ordered to be filed.

The committee appointed to draught amendments to Chap 1 of the General Regulations of this Grand Lodge, and other purposes mentioned in said appointment, made a report, which was ordered to remain for further consideration.

The Grand Secretary reported that no communications had been made to him since the last meeting of persons voted for and rejected in any of the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

It is ordered, That the Grand Secretary examine whether the deed for the lot on which Trenton Lodge, No. 5 stands, and which lot is mortgaged to the Grand Lodge, is recorded, and if not that he have it done.

The Grand Lodge having resumed the consideration of the report of the committee appointed to draught amendments to Chap. V, Sec. 1, &c., of the General Regulations of the Grand Lodge, the same was agreed to as follows, to wit:

CHAP. VI, S. 1. *Dele* the whole section, and insert

"The Grand Lodge must meet once a year statedly, for the yearly communications of all the Lodges, and shall also have occasional meetings and adjournments as business may require, at such times and places as the Grand Master may appoint for such special meeting. The yearly communication shall be held at Trenton on the 2d Wednesday in January, and the different Lodges are to attend the stated and occasional meetings by their proper officers or deputies."

§ 3, line 5, *dele* "half."

§ 14, line 3, *dele* "on or near St. John the Evangelist's day."

§ 15, line 1. *dele* "on or near St. John the Evangelist's day of" and insert "in."

§ 17, line 3 and 4, *dele* "on or near St. John the Evangelist's day."

The Grand Lodge resumed the consideration of the proposed resolution, "That at every annual communication an oration be delivered on the subject of Masonry, by a brother appointed for that purpose, either in the hall of the Grand Lodge, or such other place adjacent to the Lodge as may be directed," and after some time spent thereon,

Ordered, That the further consideration thereof be postponed.

The Grand Lodge resumed the consideration of the resolution proposed, "That every Master elect may be installed in a Lodge of Past Masters, any rule or regulation to the contrary notwithstanding," and after some time spent thereon,

Ordered, That the further consideration thereof be postponed.

The Grand Lodge having also resumed the consideration of the resolution proposed, that such of the Lodges within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, which shall make donations to poor and distressed Masons, their widows or orphans, shall have credit for the monies so given out of the dues to the Grand Lodge, provided the donations (on receipts to be produced) does not exceed the one-half of the dues of the said Lodge, and after some time spent thereon,

Ordered, That the further consideration thereof be postponed.

The Grand Lodge having resumed the consideration of the motion "that no member but the legal representatives of Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, shall have the privilege of voting in the Grand Lodge, excepting those who attended the Convention on the formation of the Grand Lodge."

On the question whether the Lodge agree to the said motion? it was carried in the negative.

Brother Burrowes Smith having presented a petition signed by five brethren, praying a warrant may be granted, and directed to Ezekiel Blue, Master, John Taylor, Senior Warden, and Burrowes Smith, Junior Warden, to hold a Lodge in the township of Amwell or Hopewell, in the county of Hunterdon, which being read, the same was ordered to be granted, and a warrant was accordingly issued by the name of Federal Lodge, No. 15.

Ordered, That the committee appointed to settle the accounts of the late Treasurer be continued, and if on settlement there should appear to be any balance due from him, that the said late Treasurer pay into the hands of his successors in office the said balance.

The Lodge proceeded to the appointment of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following persons being nominated, were appointed :

The Worshipful John N. Cumming was re-appointed Grand Master.

Joseph Bloomfield, Deputy Grand Master.

Joseph Read, Senior Grand Warden.

Israel Hedden, Junior Grand Warden.

Jacob Benjamin, Grand Secretary.

Maskell Ewing, Grand Treasurer.

Elisha Clark, D. G. Secretary.

Ordered, That Brothers Jona. Rhea and Aaron D. Woodruff be continued a committee to examine the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Secretary.

Ordered, That Brothers Richard Howell and Jonathan Rhea be continued a Committee of Correspondence with the usual powers, and that Brother John Beatty be added to the committee.

The Lodge closed in good harmony.

SPECIAL SESSION.

TRENTON, January 11, 5798.

At a special meeting of the Grand Lodge held at Trenton, this 11th day of January, 5798:

PRESENT.

R. W. JOHN N. CUMMING, Master.
JOSEPH READ, Senior Warden.
F. DAVENPORT, Junior Warden, p. t.
JACOB BENJAMIN, Secretary.

John Beatty,	Daniel Bray,	Ellett Howell,
Thomas Bibby,	Joshua Anderson,	Burrowes Smith,
Jona. Rhea,	Joshua L. Howell,	P. D. Stelle,
Cornelius Coolbaugh,	Nicholas Cox,	A. Dunham.

A Master Masons Lodge was opened in due form.

John E. Spencer, Esq., a Fellow Craft, being in waiting, and wishing to be raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason, he was accordingly raised.

The Lodge closed in good harmony.

JANUARY SESSION, 1799.

TRENTON, January 9, 5799.

The Grand Lodge met.

PRESENT.

W. JOHN N. CUMMING, Grand Master.
JOSEPH READ, Senior Grand Warden.
THOMAS BULLMAN, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
MASKELL EWING, Grand Secretary, p. t.
PONTIUS DELAREE STELLE, Senior G. Deacon, p. t.
ISAAC ANDRESS, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.

Isaac Andress, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

A. Dn. Woodruff, Aaron Dunham, P. D. Stelle, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

No representation from Unity Lodge, No. 7.

Anthony Squires, Thomas Paul, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.

David Seeley, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

James B. Caldwell, Isaac Kay, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.

Alpheus Freeman, Washington Lodge, No. 12.

No representation from Farmers Lodge, No. 14.

Benj. Price, Joseph Palmer, Federal Lodge, No. 15.

Ordered, That the Grand Treasurer be directed to get the deed from Mark Thompson to Trenton Lodge, No. 5, proved and recorded.

The Grand Lodge resumed the consideration of the proposed resolution, "That at every annual communication an oration be delivered on the subject of Masonry by a brother appointed for that purpose, either in the hall, or in such other place adjacent to the Lodge as may be directed."

On the question, Whether the Lodge agree thereto? it was carried in the affirmative.

The Lodge resumed the consideration of the resolution proposed, "That every Master elect may be installed in a Lodge of Past Masters, any rule or regulation to the contrary notwithstanding."

On the question, Whether the Lodge agree thereto? It was carried in the affirmative.

Ordered, That Brothers Bullman, Freeman and Dunham be a committee to examine the present Treasurer's accounts for the last year and report thereon.

The Lodge was called from labor to refreshment.

The Lodge was again called to labor.

The Grand Lodge resumed the consideration of the resolution proposed, "That such of the Lodges within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge which shall make donations to poor and distressed Masons, their widows or orphans, shall have credit for the monies so given out of their dues to the Grand Lodge, provided the donations (on receipts to be produced) do not exceed the one-half of the dues of the said Lodge."

On the question, Whether the Lodge agree thereto? it was carried in the affirmative.

The Worshipful laid before the Lodge a statement of the Treasurer's accounts signed by the committee appointed to settle the same, by which there appears to be a balance in the hands of the Treasurer of one hundred and fourteen dollars and seventeen cents.

The Worshipful laid before the Lodge the following resolution, which was moved and seconded for consideration at the next meeting.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary, as soon as possible after every meeting of the Grand Lodge, do furnish the Committee of Correspondence and forward to every Lodge at the expense of the Grand Lodge, attested copies of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, or so much thereof and of the communications as the Committee of Correspondence shall direct.

The Deputy Grand Master reported that he had visited Brearley Lodge, No. 9, and was pleased to find them well informed in their Work, and that they have erected a convenient Lodge for their accommodation.

A petition from 8 brethren of the county of Sussex, praying that a warrant may be granted to Brother Thomas Bullman, Master, Samuel Showers, Senior Warden, and Ezekiel Holmes, Junior Warden, to be called Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16, was read, and a warrant ordered; which warrant was issued accordingly.

Ordered, That Brothers Rhea and Woodruff be continued a committee to examine the accounts of P. D. Stelle, late Grand Treasurer, and also the accounts of the Secretary.

Ordered, That Brothers Richard Howell, John Beatty, and Jonathan Rhea, be the Committee of Correspondence for the next year, with the usual powers.

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary, as soon as possible, furnish the Committee of Correspondence, and forward to every Lodge at the expense of the Grand Lodge, copies of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

Ordered, That the Treasurer be directed to cause 2,000 copies of the blank returns to be struck off, and that the Secretary be directed to distribute 50 copies to each Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

Ordered, That the Grand Treasurer procure a number of warrants to be struck off for the use of the Grand Lodge, and that the Lodge will provide for the expense.

The Lodge proceeded to the appointment of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following persons being nominated, were appointed:

The Right Worshipful Joseph Bloomfield, Grand Master.
Joseph Read, Deputy Grand Master.
Dr. Wm. McKissack, Senior Grand Warden.
Thomas Anderson, Junior Grand Warden.
Jacob Benjamin, Grand Secretary.
Maskell Ewing, Grand Treasurer.
Elisha Clark, Deputy Grand Secretary.

Ordered, That Brother Giles be appointed to deliver an oration at the next communication.

The Lodge closed in good harmony, to meet again at Trenton, on the second Wednesday of January next.

JANUARY SESSION, 1800.

TRENTON, January 8, 5800.

The Grand Lodge met agreeably to adjournment.

PRESENT.

R. W. JOSEPH BLOOMFIELD, Grand Master.
JOSEPH READ, Deputy Grand Master,
DR. WILLIAM McKISSACK, Senior G. Warden, p. t.
JOHN N. CUMMING, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
SAMUEL J. READ, Senior Grand Deacon.
JOHN VANDERGRIFF, Junior Grand Deacon.
MASKELL EWING, Grand Treasurer.
JACOB BENJAMIN, Grand Secretary.

Dr. William McKissack, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.

John N. Cumming, John Pintard, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

Trinity Lodge, No. 3, formerly of Monmouth county, STRUCK OFF.

Hiram Lodge, No. 4, formerly of Morris county, STRUCK OFF.

Aaron Dn. Woodruff, Jona. Rhea, Aaron Dunham, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

Union Lodge, No. 6, formerly of Bergen County, STRUCK OFF.

No representation from Unity Lodge, No. 7, of Kingwood, in the county of Hunterdon.

No representation from Harmony Lodge, No. 8, of Newton, in the county of Sussex.

Jedediah Davis, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

No representation from Nova Cæsarea Lodge, in the Western Territory.

James B. Caldwell, Joseph Hillman, Samuel Chatham, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.

Andrew Lyle, Washington Lodge, No. 12.

No representation from Paterson Lodge, No. 13.

Ebenezer Mead, Farmers Lodge, No. 14.

Benjamin Price, Joseph Palmer, Federal Lodge, No. 15.

Thomas Bullman, Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.

A Master Masons Lodge was opened in due form.

The Right Worshipful Grand Master announced to the brethren the death of our deceased brother, General GEORGE WASHINGTON, in the following address, to wit:

"I announce to you, brethren, that it hath pleased the Divine Creator, on the 14th of December, 5799, to remove our great and good brother, eorge Washington, in the 68th year of his age, from the cares and

troubles of this transitory existence TO A STATE OF ETERNAL DURATION. May his death remind us of our approaching fate, and incline us to be more strongly cemented in the ties of union and friendship, that by regulating our conduct here agreeably to the dictates of truth, wisdom and discretion, we may prosecute our journey without dread or apprehension, to that far distant country from whose bourne no traveller returns—and that we may enjoy in our last moments that serene tranquility of mind which ever flows from a good conscience void of offence towards God and man."

An excuse was offered for the oration not being delivered at this time, agreeably to the order of the last meeting.

Ordered, That the excuse be deemed satisfactory, and that the Orator be continued.

Ordered, That Brothers Rhea, Caldwell and Mead, be a committe to settle the accounts of the Grand Treasurer.

Ordered, That Brothers Richard Howell, John Beatty, and Jonathan Rhea be continued the Committee of Correspondence for the ensuing year.

The Grand Treasurer reported that he had procured the 2,000 blank returns and 31 warrants, agreeably to the orders of the Grand Lodge.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer procure for the Grand Lodge a seal, as nearly resembling the former seal (which is lost) as possible.

Brothers Jonathan Rhea and A. D. Woodruff, the committee appointed to examine and report the accounts of Pontius D. Stelle, late Treasurer, reported that they had examined the books of the said Pontius D. Stelle, and find there is a balance due from him of one pound five shillings and five pence.

Resolved, That the Lodge do approve of the said report.

Brother William McKissack having presented a petition from several members of Solomon's Lodge, No. 1, praying that the dues of those that are dead or removed may be remitted, which was read and the further consideration of the same postponed.

Brother John N. Cumming proposed the following motion: That any of the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, may make such funeral processions in honor of the late deceased brother, General George Washington, as to them may

seem proper, they preserving established rules; and that the day of the first procession be on the 22d of February next, and ever after on the 14th of December, and that the several Lodges be hung in black and the members wear mourning for our deceased brother until the festival of next St. John's day, which being seconded and the question being taken, whether the Lodge agree thereto, it was carried unanimously in the affirmative.

Brother John N. Cumming presented a communication stating that Joseph Wallace, of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, had been suspended in said Lodge,

Ordered, That the said communication be filed.

Brother John N. Cumming presented an extract from the minutes of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, respecting the honors paid to the memory of our late illustrious brother, General George Washington, as follows:

December 25th, A. L. 5799.

On motion—*Resolved,* That the funeral obsequies of our late illustrious brother General George Washington, be attended by this Lodge, on Friday next, in conjunction with the military and citizens of this town.

Resolved, That an escutcheon with a suitable device, be prepared and placed over the W. Master's chair, to perpetuate the virtues of our highly respected departed brother G. Washington.

Resolved, That the altar, with the desks of the W. Master, Senior and Junior Wardens, be veiled with mourning, and that the officers' jewels and the badges of the brethren be trimmed with black crape during the space of six months.

Resolved, That the festival usually observed on the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist, be suspended on this mournful occasion.

Friday, 27th December, A. L. 5799.

The Lodge assembled at 10 o'clock A. M., and walked in funeral procession with the citizens of Newark, and attended Divine service performed in the Presbyterian church, by the Rev. Dr. Macwhorter.

An elegant obelisk, executed by Brother Matthias Higgins, with a striking likeness of the late general, and suitable emblems and inscriptions, was borne by the two eldest brethren in the procession.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Lodge be returned to the Rev. Dr. Macwhorter, for his discourse delivered in honor of General Washington.

Resolved, That thanks be returned to Brother Secretary Higgins, for his services on this occasion.

Saturday, January 4, A. L. 5800.

Resolved, That a brother be selected from this Lodge to deliver an eulogy, on the 22d of February next, in conformity with the Resolution of Congress to the memory of our late illustrious brother General George Washington, and that a Committee of Arrangements be appointed to superintend the ceremonies of the evening.

It was recommended that the doors of the Lodge be opened to a select audience on the occasion.

M. W. Higgins, Secretary.

Ordered, That the same be filed.

The Lodge was called from labor to refreshment.

The Lodge was called again to labor.

The committee appointed for that purpose reported that they had examined the books and vouchers of Brother Maskell Ewing, Grand Treasurer, and find a balance remaining in his hands of two hundred and seventy-one dollars and eleven cents.

Which report was agreed to and ordered filed.

The Lodge proceeded to the appointment of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following persons being nominated, were appointed, to wit:

The Right Worshipful Joseph Bloomfield, Grand Master.

Joseph Read, Deputy Grand Master.

Dr. William McKissack, Senior Grand Warden.

Thomas Anderson, Junior Grand Warden.

Jacob Benjamin, Grand Secretary.

Maskell Ewing, Treasurer.

Samuel J. Read, Deputy Grand Secretary.

The Lodge closed in good harmony, to meet at Trenton, on the 2d Wednesday of January next.

JANUARY SESSION, 1801.

TRENTON, January 4, 5801.

PRESENT.

R. W. JOSEPH READ, Deputy Grand Master.
WILLIAM McKISSACK, Senior Warden.
AARON D. WOODRUFF, Junior Warden, p t.
JONATHAN DOAN, Senior Deacon, p. t.
JAMES ALEXANDER, Junior Deacon, p. t.
MASKELL EWING, Grand Treasurer.
JACOB BENJAMIN, Grand Secretary.

John Meldrum, Andrew Howell, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.
No representation from St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
Aaron D. Woodruff, Aaron Dunham, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
Lucius W. Stockton, John Cherry, Joshua Anderson, Unity Lodge, No. 7.
No representation from Harmony Lodge, No. 8.
Dr. William Belford Ewing, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
No representation from Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10.
Samuel Chatham, Thomas West, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.
Andrew Lyle, William Dunham, Washington Lodge, No. 12.
No representation from Paterson Lodge, No. 13.
No representation from Farmers Lodge, No. 14.
Burrowes Smith, John Saxton, Federal Lodge, No. 15.
Thomas Bullman, Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.

PAST GRAND MASTER—John Beatty.

A Master Masons Lodge was opened in due form.

The Grand Treasurer presented to the Lodge a seal procured agreeably to the order of the last meeting.

Resolved, That the same be approved.

A letter from the Worshipful Brother William Ellison, Master of Paterson Lodge, No. 13, craving time till the next communication of the Grand Lodge, to pay off their dues and to be received into communication; whereupon,

Resolved, That indulgence be given to the said Lodge agreeably to the said request, and that unless that Lodge be duly represented at the next communication, and their dues paid, they shall be struck off the list of Lodges agreeably to rule, and that the Secretary send Brother Ellison a copy of this resolution.

Brother Bullman reported that in obedience to a dispensation for that purpose, he had visited Farmers Lodge, No. 14, and found the Craft in good harmony, &c.

Ordered, That the report be filed.

Brother Woodruff also reported that in obedience to a dispensation he had visited Unity Lodge, No 7, and Federal Lodge, No. 15, and found good order and regularity to prevail.

Ordered, That the report be filed.

Brother William McKissack also reported that in obedience to a dispensation he had visited St. John's Lodge, No. 2, and Washington Lodge, No. 12, and found them skillful, well-informed, and attentive.

Ordered, That the report be filed.

Brother Ewing, Grand Treasurer, reported that on last St. John's day he visited Woodbury Lodge, No. 11, and altho' the Lodge was not engaged in any particular business, he found them congregated in Masonic order, and was happy to find that the business of the Lodge was conducted by enlightened Masons in the most approved Masonic form.

Ordered, That the said report be filed.

Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10, not having communicated their proceedings to this Lodge on the warrant granted to them,

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary write to the Master and officers of that Lodge, or some of them, and inform them that the rules of this Lodge require that they communicate annually the state of the Lodge under their care, and that they forward their dues and a return of their members to this Lodge, or that otherwise they be struck off the list of Lodges and the warrant considered as null and void.

Ordered, That Brothers Woodruff and Lucius W. Stockton, be a committee to settle the accounts of the Grand Treasurer.

Ordered, That the Committee of Correspondence for the last year be continued, and that Brother Aaron D. Woodruff be added thereto.

Brother James Giles having forwarded an excuse to this Lodge for not delivering an oration at this time agreeably to his appointment.

Resolved, That the same be deemed satisfactory.

Brother Dr. William Belford Ewing having suggested to the Lodge that Brother Giles is desirous of being excused from the delivery of an oration on account of his indisposition,

Resolved, That the reason is sufficient, and that he be excused accordingly.

On motion,

Resolved, That it is inexpedient to appoint an orator at the present communication.

A petition from Solomon's Lodge, No. 1, praying that former dues from that Lodge to the Grand Lodge which have not been collected might be remitted, having been laid before the Lodge at the last communication, was now taken into consideration and the prayer in the said petition granted.

The following resolution was proposed to the Grand Lodge for their consideration at the next communication, to wit:

Resolved, That the yearly communications of the Grand Lodge be hereafter holden at the city of Trenton, on the second Tuesday in November in each and every year.

On motion of Brother Bullman, seconded by Brother William Belford Ewing,

The Lodge was called from labor to refreshment.

The Lodge was again called to labor.

The Committee appointed for that purpose reported that they had examined the books and vouchers of Brother Maskell Ewing, Grand Treasurer, and find a balance remaining in his hands of three hundred and eighty-two dollars and ninety-two cents, which report was approved and ordered to be filed.

A petition from Brother John Reading, praying to be heard on his former appeal, was read, whereupon,

On motion,

Resolved, That the petition be filed, that a copy thereof be forthwith served on Lodge No. 2, and that the said Lodge No. 2 and Brother Reading be notified to attend at the next Grand Lodge to be heard thereon.

The Lodge proceeded to the appointment of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following persons being nominated, were unanimously appointed, to wit:

The Right Worshipful John Beatty, Grand Master.
Joseph Read, Deputy Grand Master.
Dr. William McKissack, Senior Grand Warden.
Thomas Anderson, Junior Grand Warden.
Jacob Benjamin, Grand Secretary.
Samuel J. Read, Deputy Grand Secretary.
Maskell Ewing, Grand Treasurer.

The Right Worshipful Grand Master and the other Grand Officers elect, who were present, were severally installed, according to ancient usage, into their respective offices, and being duly proclaimed, received the salutations of the brethren present.

The Lodge closed in good harmony, to meet again in the city of Trenton, on the second Wednesday in January next.

JANUARY SESSION, 1802.

TRENTON, January 13, 5802.

The Grand Lodge met agreeably to adjournment.

The following Deputies attended, to wit:

George McDonald, Andrew Howell, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.
John N. Cumming, Isaac Andruss, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
Aaron D. Woodruff, Jonathan Rhea, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
Joshua Anderson, Thomas Gordon, Unity Lodge, No. 7.
Thomas Anderson, Robert C. Thomson, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.
Dr. Belford Ewing, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
No representation from Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10.
Franklin Davenport, Joshua Ladd Howell, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.
Alpheus Freeman, Aaron Hazzard, Washington Lodge, No. 12.
Abraham Godwin, Paterson Lodge, No. 13.
No representation from Farmers Lodge, No. 14.
Burrowes Smith, William Smith, Federal Lodge, No. 15.
Thomas Bullman, Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.

VISITING BRETHREN—Dr. Andrew Hunter, Thomas Paul, James Linn.

Paterson Lodge, No. 13, being duly represented, and having paid their dues agreeably to the order of the last meeting,

Resolved, That they be continued.

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary write to the officers of Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10, in answer to their letter received in consequence of a communication of the resolution of the Grand Lodge at their last meeting; and that the said Secretary forward to the officers of said Lodge a blank form of return to be made, and a copy of the Regulations of the Grand Lodge.

The following is the letter referred to and also a copy of the reply:

NOVA CÆSAREA LODGE, No. 10,
CINCINNATI, HAMILTON COUNTY, N. W. TERRITORY,
Dec. 8th, A. L. 5801.

SIR:—We received a letter from your Grand Lodge dated Trenton, Nov. 16, 5801, wherein was stated our neglect in not sending forward a proper statement of our Lodge, together with our dues and a return of our members, annually, to your Grand Lodge.

Our Lodge have called a meeting for the express purpose of answering your letter. We beg leave to inform the Grand Lodge that the distance from here there renders the conveyance difficult, the proof of which we have experienced. Sometime ago we sent on money and a report of the state of the Lodge by Brother Doctor John Henry, and have not received an answer; we therefore beg it as a favor of the Grand Lodge to inform us whether this money has been paid, and how much, and also what our annual dues are. We do assure the Grand Lodge that we will then immediately make use of the earliest opportunity to render every satisfaction in our power to the Grand Lodge to which we belong.

In behalf and by order of our Lodge,

I am, Worshipful Brother,
Your very humble servant,
W. GOFORTH, JR., Sec'y.

To the Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, Trenton, New Jersey.

TRENTON, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, July —, 1802.

SIR:—By direction of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of ths 8th of December last, and in answer thereto have to inform you that your letter contained the first and only information the G. Lodge has received of the money sent by "Brother Dr. John Henry," who we find (upon enquiry since) has removed to

some remote part of the State of New York, and in all probability the remittance made by him may be accounted as lost.

With regard to the enquiry contained in your letter "what are the annual dues of your Lodge?" I must refer the answer to yourselves, after stating the following information:—By the General Regulations of the Grand Lodge (a copy of which I am directed to inclose you) you will find that the G. Lodge are entitled to receive "five shillings for every person who obtains the benefit of Masonry under its jurisdiction" unless made under a dispensation, in which case "twenty shillings (additional) is to be paid to the charity funds of the Grand Lodge," and further, "that every member of a constituted Lodge under this Grand Lodge shall pay one shilling quarterly to the charity fund of the same." These then constitute what are called your annual dues, and are to be paid at the yearly communication (*new*) held at this place on the 2d Tuesday in November. You are also to accompany these dues with "an exact list of the names, titles, and occupations of the officers and members of your Lodge, &c." (a form of which I inclose you). It will therefore be expected that the list you shall (*first*) forward will contain the names of all the members made or admitted since the warrant has been obtained, and not for the last year only, and that the whole of the dues accrued, for each and every preceding year will be forwarded on or before the next communication in Nov., and in like manner that an annual return, accompanied with its dues, will be made every year in future.

I am, &c.,

J. Benjamin, Sec'y. G. Lodge.

P. S.—See Sections 2d, 3d, 7th, and 14th, Chap. VI, of the General Regulations.

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That Brothers Andruss, Rhea and Belford Ewing be a committee to settle the accounts of the Grand Treasurer for the last year.

Brother Woodruff, from the Committee of Correspondence, reported that communications have been received from the Right Worshipful Grand Lodges of South Carolina, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and New Hampshire, respecting the proposition of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Georgia, for forming a Superintending or Grand Lodge for the United States, which having been read,

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That the resolutions entered into by this Grand Lodge on the sixth day of July, 5790, be adhered to, and that copies thereof be again sent by the Committee of Correspondence to the several Grand Lodges of the United States.

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That the Committee of Correspondence be at liberty to take such extracts from the minutes of this Lodge as they may deem necessary, and have the same printed, to be forwarded in answer to such communications as have or may be made to this Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Treasurer pay the expense thereof.

Resolved, That the Committee of Correspondence for the last year be continued.

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That the consideration of the application of Brother John Reading be laid over till the next communication, and that the Grand Secretary give the necessary information of this postponement to Brother Reading.

A petition signed by James Burras and others, members of regular Lodges, praying a warrant to establish a Lodge at Pequanock, to be called *Cincinnato*, being presented and read,

Resolved, That Brothers Cummins, Ellison, and Godwin be a committee to enquire into the expediency of granting said warrant, and of appointing the officers named in said petition, and that they report to the Grand Master for the time being; and that in case the report of the committee be favorable, that the Grand Master be authorized to grant a dispensation, to be renewed agreeably to the General Regulations of this Grand Lodge.

A petition from the officers of Solomon's Lodge, No. 1, praying charity for the relief of Martha Murphy, widow of Barnabas Murphy, deceased, late an ancient and worthy brother, being read,

Resolved, That the said petition be referred to the committee appointed to dispose of the charity funds.

An application being made for charity for the relief of Agnes Adams,

Resolved, That the said application be referred to the same committee.

The Right Worshipful Grand Master reported:

That in virtue of the powers, and in conformity with the duties on him enjoined as Grand Master, by the first section of the second chapter of the General Regulations, he has, since the last communication, visited all the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, save that of Paterson Orange Lodge, No. 13. That in all the Lodges except one, (which in tenderness he omits to designate) he was received with that cordiality, affection, and true politeness which ought ever to characterize

brethren. That he inspected their several bye-laws and proceedings, and remarked with peculiar pleasure that they were founded on and conducted conformably with the ancient landmarks and usages of Masonry. That in the course of his communication he was happy to observe the greatest harmony subsisting among the brethren of the respective Lodges; and that their work was carried on with great correctness and readiness and with a degree of information which does credit to the officers conducting them, and he indulges sanguine expectations that from the present temper and character of the brethren and their rulers, the Grand Lodge will find cause for felicitation that our Masonic institution, which in this State presented rather a gloomy perspective, is likely to be much brightened, and to shine forth in acts and examples which shall prove the intrinsic excellence of the principles of our Art. The Grand Master caused the lectures usual in the three different grades to be gone through with by the presiding Masters, and with pleasure noticed that great uniformity prevailed in their mode of working. In the conclusion of his communication he delivered a charge to the Brethren, in which he inculcated most strongly the caution which was necessary to be observed in the admission of new members, whereby the bright Gem of Masonry that had been handed down to them from time immemorial, should not be tarnished in their hands; but that with a becoming and noble spirit of emulation they should exert themselves to transmit it to future generations, not only with unsullied, but, if possible, with additional lustre. The Grand Master cannot close his report without remarking that from the apparent satisfaction and pleasure manifested by the brethren at this mark of attention paid them by the Grand Lodge, he flatters himself his visit will be attended with beneficial effects, and recommends the punctual observance of this duty.

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary do write to Brother Nehemiah Wade, of the county of Bergen, requesting information relative to the warrant of Union Lodge, No. 6, lately holden at Hackensack, in that county, and inform him that it is the order of this Grand Lodge that the said warrant be returned without delay, to the Grand Secretary, to be by him deposited in the archives of the Grand Lodge, until it may be again called for.

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary also write to Brother William Leddell and communicate to him the same resolution with respect to Hiram Lodge, No. 4.

Ordered, That the Grand Treasurer procure a jewel for the Senior Grand Warden and cause the other jewels of this Lodge to be new mounted with ribbands proper for the occasion.

The following resolutions were proposed for consideration, to wit:

Resolved, That every Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge

shall, at every yearly Communication, deliver to the Grand Secretary, to be by him filed, the amount of the sums, and to whom disbursed, by such Lodge, in charitable dispensations since the last Grand Communication.

Resolved, That no member of any Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, shall be entitled to ask or receive a certificate of his membership and good behaviour, unless it be with a view either of removing from one Lodge and joining another, as expressed in Sec. 11, Chap. 6, of the General Regulations, or that he is about to leave this state and to travel or reside in some foreign state or country.

Resolved, That the 5th Sec. of Chap. 6, be amended, by adding thereto, that the Grand Lodge or the Grand Master be authorized to grant dispensations for the congregating of brethren and making of Masons, and that the same be renewed for the term of four months, or longer, if it should be deemed expedient so to do upon the special circumstances of the case.

The Lodge was called from labor to refreshment.

The Lodge was again called to labor.

The Lodge, having taken into consideration the resolutions proposed at the last Communication respecting a change in the time of holding the yearly Communications,

Resolved, That the same be hereafter holden at the city of Trenton, on the second Tuesday in November, in each and every year.

The committee appointed for that purpose, reported that they have examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, together with the vouchers in support of the same, and find in his hands a balance of five hundred and twelve dollars and twenty-three cents, which report was approved and ordered to be filed.

On motion, made and seconded,

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer loan the sum of four hundred dollars, part of the funds of this Grand Lodge, on proper security, at the legal interest, or vest the same in the funds of the United States, if he should deem it more advisable.

The Lodge then proceeded to the appointment of Grand officers for the ensuing year, when the following persons being nominated, were unanimously appointed, to wit:

The Right Worshipful John Beatty, Grand Master.

Joseph Read, Deputy Grand Master.

William McKissack, Senior Grand Warden.

Thomas Anderson, Junior Grand Warden.
Maskell Ewing, Grand Treasurer.
Jacob Benjamin, Grand Secretary.
Samuel J. Read, Deputy Grand Secretary.

The Right Worshipful Grand Master and the other Grand Officers elect, were severally installed according to ancient usage, into their respective offices, and being duly proclaimed, received the accustomed salutations of the brethren present.

The Right Worshipful Grand Master, in virtue of his prerogative, appointed the Rev. Brother Andrew Hunter, Grand Chaplain for the ensuing year.

The Lodge closed in good harmony, to meet again at the city of Trenton, on the second Tuesday in November next.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1802.

TRENTON, November 9, 5802.

The Grand Lodge met agreeably to adjournment.

PRESENT.

R. W. JOHN BEATTY, Grand Master.
JOSEPH READ, Deputy Grand Master.
MASKELL EWING, Grand Treasurer.
SAMUEL J. READ, Deputy Grand Secretary.

No representation from Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.
No representation from St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
A. D. Woodruff, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
No representation from Unity Lodge, No. 7.
Thomas Anderson, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.
William B. Ewing, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
No representation from Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10.

Franklin Davenport, Joshua L. Howell, James B. Caldwell, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.

Alpheus Freeman, Washington Lodge, No. 12.

Abraham Godwin, Paterson Lodge, No. 13.

William Elston, Farmers' Lodge, No. 14.

Burrowes Smith, Federal Lodge, No. 15.

Thomas Bullman, Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, &c.

Agreeably to a resolve of the Grand Lodge at their last Communication, Brother Godwin, of Paterson Lodge, appeared and paid the dues of that Lodge to the Grand Treasurer.

Resolved, That Brothers Woodruff and ———, be a committee to settle the account of the Grand Treasurer.

Brother Woodruff reported to the Grand Lodge, that the committee appointed for that purpose have sent copies of the resolution of this Grand Lodge to the Committees of Correspondence of the several Grand Lodges of the United States.

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That the Committee of Correspondence for the last year be continued, with the same powers, &c.

Brother Reading having died since the last Communication, further proceedings on his petition are unnecessary.

Brother Godwin informed this Grand Lodge that the committee appointed at the last Communication to enquire into the expediency of granting a warrant for a Lodge at Pequanock, were not ready to report,

Resolved, That the committee be continued, &c.

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer procure a jewel for the Senior Grand Warden and jewels for the Senior and Junior Deacons of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Treasurer reported, that in obedience to the order of this Grand Lodge, he had loaned, on interest, to Joseph Vandegrift, on ample security, the sum of four hundred dollars.

The committee appointed to settle the account of the Grand Treasurer, reported that they have examined the same, compared it with the vouchers, and find a balance in his hands of one hundred and forty-seven dollars and seventy-three cents, which report is approved and ordered filed.

On motion,

Resolved, That Brother A. D. Woodruff, Master of Lodge No. 5, Brother Ewing, Grand Treasurer, and Brother Benjamin, Grand Secretary, be a committee to revise the General Regulations for the government of this Grand Lodge, incorporating therein such new or amended Rules, Resolutions and Regulations which have been adopted by the said Grand Lodge and which may be proper to be so selected, together with a list of all the warranted Lodges and the times and places of meeting; that two hundred copies thereof be printed for the use of the Grand Lodge and the Lodges under its jurisdiction, to be distributed under the direction of the Right Worshipful Grand Master; also,

Ordered, That the Grand Treasurer be directed to pay the expense thereof.

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That at the next Communication of this Grand Lodge, all the Lodges which have paid to the Treasurer of this Grand Lodge the dues for their Tyler, shall have a credit for the amount thereof.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the appointment of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following persons being nominated, were unanimously appointed, to wit:

John Beatty, Right Worshipful Grand Master.

Joseph Read, Deputy Grand Master.

William McKissack, Senior Grand Warden.

Thomas Anderson, Junior Grand Warden.

Jacob Benjamin, Grand Secretary.

Samuel J. Read, Deputy Grand Secretary.

Maskell Ewing, Grand Treasurer.

The Rev. Brother Andrew Hunter was then appointed by the Right Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Chaplain for the ensuing year.

Visiting Brothers—George Bergin and A. Pearson.

The Lodge closed in good harmony, to meet again at the city of Trenton, on the second Tuesday in November next.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1803.

At a yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge of the state of New Jersey, holden at the city of Trenton, on the 8th day of November, A. L. 5803.

PRESENT.

R. W. JOHN BEATTY, Grand Master.
JOSEPH READ, Deputy Grand Master.
THOMAS ANDERSON, Senior Grand Warden.
AARON D. WOODRUFF, Junior Grand Warden.
JAMES M. WHITALL, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
JONATHAN DOAN, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
MASKELL EWING, Grand Treasurer.
JACOB BENJAMIN, Grand Secretary.

George McDonald, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.
No representation from St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
Aaron D. Woodruff, Jonathan Rhea, Nicholas Belleville, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
No representation from Unity Lodge, No. 7.
Thomas Anderson, John Johnson, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.
George Burgin, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
No representation from Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10.
Franklin Davenport, James M. Whitall, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.
Alpheus Freeman, Aaron Hassert, Washington Lodge, No. 12.
Abraham Godwin, Paterson Lodge, No. 13.
William Elston, Farmers' Lodge, No. 14.
No representation from Federal Lodge, No. 15.
No representation from Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The Grand Treasurer presented a letter from Brother William Halsey, of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, with which was forwarded certain monies, in part of the dues of that Lodge, and stating that the residue has been appropriated for charitable purposes, and containing an apology for their non-attendance at this time.

Resolved, That the money be credited and that the apology be accepted.

A letter from Brother Nehemiah Wade, containing the warrant of Union Lodge, No. 6, with assurances that no improper use had been made of the same, was presented and read, whereupon,

Resolved, That the warrant be received and lodged in the pedestal.

Resolved, That Brothers Davenport and McDonald be a committee to settle the accounts of the Grand Treasurer for the preceding year.

Resolved, That the Committee of Correspondence for the last year be continued with the same powers, &c.

Brother Burras presented a petition signed by seven Master Masons, praying a warrant may be granted to Brothers James Burras, Master, William Bailey, Senior Warden, and John Sturdevant, Junior Warden, to hold a Lodge at Montville, in the county of Morris, which was read; whereupon,

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioners be allowed, and that a warrant be granted to hold a Lodge accordingly, by the name of Cincinnati, No. 17.

Brother Woodruff, Master of Lodge No. 5, from the committee appointed to revise the General Regulations of the Grand Lodge, stated that the said committee were not ready to report; whereupon,

Resolved, That the said committee be continued, with their former powers, &c.

Brother Davenport presented a petition signed by a number of brethren, three of whom were Master Masons well known to this Lodge, praying a warrant may be granted to Brother Joseph Read, Master, Charles Ellis, Senior Warden, and Samuel J. Read, Junior Warden, to hold a Lodge at Mount Holly, in the county of Burlington, which was read; whereupon,

Resolved, That the prayer of the petitioners be allowed, and that a warrant be granted to hold a Lodge accordingly, by the name of Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.

Resolutions proposed for consideration—by Brother Davenport:

Resolved, That from and after the meeting of this Grand Lodge, the Grand Officers, and the several delegates from the different Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, who may attend the Grand Lodge, be paid their expenses in coming and going from their several Lodges, by the Treasurer of the Grand Lodge.

By Brother Freeman:

Resolved, That the above be limited to the payment of the expenses of one member or delegate only from each Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, and after some time spent, was again called to labor.

The committee appointed for that purpose reported that they have examined the account of the Grand Treasurer for the preceding year, compared it with the vouchers, and find in his hands on this day a balance of two hundred and fifty dollars and forty-nine cents, due to the Grand Lodge, which report was read; whereupon,

Resolved, That the same be approved and filed.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the appointment of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following persons being nominated, were unanimously appointed, viz:

John Beatty, Right Worshipful Grand Master.

Aaron D. Woodruff, Deputy Grand Master.

William McKissack, Senior Grand Warden.

Thomas Anderson, Junior Grand Warden.

Jacob Benjamin, Grand Secretary.

Samuel J. Read, Deputy Grand Secretary.

Maskell Ewing, Grand Treasurer.

The Right Worshipful Grand Master and the other Grand Officers elect were severally installed into their respective offices, according to ancient usage, and being duly proclaimed, received the accustomed salutations of the brethren present.

Resolved, That the Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, and the other Masters of Lodges present, be appointed to install Brothers Burras and Read as Masters of the Lodges No. 17 and 18.

The Grand Lodge closed in good harmony, to meet again at the city of Trenton, on the second Tuesday of November next.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1804.

At a yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey, holden at the city of Trenton, on the 13th day of November, A. L. 5804.

PRESENT.

R. W. JOHN BEATTY, Grand Master.
AARON D. WOODRUFF, Deputy Grand Master.
WILLIAM McKISSACK, Senior Grand Warden.
SAMUEL J. READ, Deputy Grand Secretary.
MASKELL EWING, Grand Treasurer.

William McKissack, George McDonald, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.
Isaac Andress, David Canfield, John Gifford, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
Aaron D. Woodruff, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
No representation from Unity Lodge, No. 7.
John Johnson, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.
George Burgin, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
No representation from Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10.
Franklin Davenport, James M. Whitall, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.
Alpheus Freeman, Washington Lodge, No. 12.
No representation from Paterson Lodge, No. 13.
No representation from Farmers' Lodge, No. 14.
Benjamin Price, Burrowes Smith, Federal Lodge, No. 15.
Thomas Bullman, Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.
James Burras, Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.
Joseph Read, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

Resolved, That Brothers Freeman and Johnson be appointed a committee to examine and settle the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, and report thereon.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, and after some time was again called to labor.

It appearing that Unity Lodge, No. 7, has not been represented in the Grand Lodge for the two last communications, nor have any dues been paid; it is therefore

Ordered, That they be struck off the list of Lodges agreeably to rule, and that the warrant be called in by the Grand Secretary.

A letter from Brother William McFarland, Secretary of Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10, stating the names of the members of

their Lodge, and that they had forwarded money for their dues by John Henry, was presented and read; whereupon,

Ordered, That as the said money has not been received, that the Grand Secretary advise them thereof, and desire them as soon as possible to forward to the Grand Treasurer such money as may be due and received by them; and that hereafter they make their communications and pay their dues annually to the Treasurer of this Lodge.

Ordered, That the dues of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, of $17.71, charged November 8, 5803, be paid to the Grand Treasurer, unless receipts are produced by the next communication that the same have been disbursed in charities.

Resolved, That the Committee of Correspondence be discharged, and that the Grand Secretary have printed under the direction of the R. W. Grand Master, a copy of the proceedings of the last communication and of such other things as may be proper to be communicated, and that the expense thereof be defrayed out of the funds of the Grand Lodge.

Brother Burras reported that the officers of Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17, have been installed and proceeded to business.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to revise the General Regulations of the Grand Lodge be continued with their former powers.

Brother Read reported that the officers of Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18, have been installed and proceeded to business.

The resolutions proposed for consideration at the last communication by Brothers Davenport and Freeman, were taken up and discussed, and on the question, whether the Lodge will agree thereto? it was carried in the negative.

Brother Johnson from the committee appointed for that purpose reported that the said committee have examined the account of the Grand Treasurer for the preceding year, compared it with the vouchers, and find a balance in his hands of three hundred and forty-six dollars and thirteen cents due to the Lodge, which report was read; whereupon,

Resolved, That the same be approved and filed.

The Deputy Grand Master reported that

Since the last communication he has attended and assisted in the installation of the officers of Mount Holly Lodge, and has the pleasure to observe, that from the past attention and information of the brethren who are appointed to preside over the Lodge, he has no doubt they will become useful members, and distinguished among the Sons of Light, in spreading the beneficial influence of our beloved institution.

The Deputy Grand Master has the satisfaction also to report that on the 18th of June last, he visited Woodbury Lodge, No. 11, and was very much gratified with the orderly conduct and deportment of the officers and members of the Lodge—testifying their high veneration of the principles of our benevolent institution, and the improvement they have made in the knowledge necessary to become worthy members of it.

Joseph Wallace having been formerly suspended from Lodge No. 2, Brother Andruss now reported that the said Joseph Wallace has been reinstated in the said Lodge.

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That this Lodge agree to establish a Royal Arch Chapter for the higher order of Masonry, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge; and that the Worshipful Deputy Grand Master and Brothers Davenport and Bullman be a committee to report measures to-morrow evening at five o'clock, to carry into effect the said resolution.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the appointment of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following persons being nominated, were unanimously appointed, to wit:

John Beatty, Right Worshipful Grand Master.
Aaron D. Woodruff, Deputy Grand Master.
William McKissack, Senior Grand Warden.
Thomas Anderson, Junior Grand Warden.
Jacob Benjamin, Grand Secretary.
Samuel J. Read, Deputy Grand Secretary.
Maskell Ewing, Grand Treasurer.

The Right Worshipful Grand Master and the other Grand Officers elect, (except Brothers Anderson and Benjamin who were absent) were severally installed into their respective offices according to ancient usage, and being duly proclaimed, received the accustomed salutations of the brethren present.

Adjourned till to-morrow evening at 5 o'clock.

November 14, 5804.

The Lodge met according to adjournment.

The Worshipful Deputy Grand Master from the committee appointed to report measures to carry into effect the resolution

adopted by the present Communication to establish a Royal Arch Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, reported that

The said Committee have considered the subject referred to them, under full impressions of the great importance attached to it, and are of opinion that as well from the small number of the brethren now present who have attained that degree, as their want of experience, and also the shortness of the time to obtain information relative thereto, they cannot at this time devise such a plan as they can feel perfect freedom and satisfaction in reporting to be adopted. Notwithstanding, they would submit, that if a sufficient number of brethren of that degree will congregate themselves and undertake to open a Chapter under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, that they have liberty so to do, at such time and place as they may think proper, giving notice thereof to, and having permission therefor from, the Right Worshipful Grand Master.

Which report was read and adopted.

The Grand Lodge closed in good harmony, to meet again at the city of Trenton, on the second Tuesday of November next.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1805.

At a yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey, holden at the city of Trenton, this twelfth day of November, A. L. 5804.

PRESENT.

R. W. JOHN BEATTY, Grand Master.
AARON D. WOODRUFF, Deputy Grand Master.
THOMAS BULLMAN, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
FRANKLIN DAVENPORT, Junior G. Warden, p. t.
JAMES B. CALDWELL, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
DAYTON LUMMIS, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
JACOB BENJAMIN, Grand Secretary.
MASKELL EWING, Grand Treasurer.
SAMUEL J. READ, Deputy Grand Secretary.

George McDonald, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.
Isaac Andress, St. John's Lodge. No. 2.

Aaron D. Woodruff, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

No representation from Harmony Lodge, No. 8.

George Burgin, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

No representation from Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10.

Franklin Davenport, James B. Caldwell, Dayton Lummis, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.

Alpheus Freeman, Washington Lodge, No. 12.

No representation from Paterson Lodge, No. 13.

George Baxter, Farmers Lodge, No. 14.

Benjamin Price, Federal Lodge, No. 15.

Thomas Bullman, Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.

John T. Bentley, Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.

Samuel J. Read, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.

The Grand Lodge was then opened in ample form.

Resolved, That Brothers Andrews and Burgin be a committee to settle the accounts of the Grand Treasurer for the preceding year.

Brother Baxter presented a petition signed by Christopher Longstreet and eleven others, three of whom were Master Masons, praying a warrant to be granted to Brothers Christopher Longstreet, Master, Simon Cortrite, Senior Warden, Jesse Runnels, Junior Warden, to hold a Lodge in the township of Montage, in the county of Sussex; which being read,

Resolved, That the same be reported to the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master and Brother Bullman, and that they report thereon this afternoon.

The Committee appointed for that purpose reported that they had examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, and that they find a balance in his hands of two hundred and thirty-two dollars and seventy-two and a half cents; which report was read and approved.

The Grand Secretary reported that he had forwarded a copy of the order of this Lodge at their last Communication respecting Unity Lodge, No. 7, to Lucius W. Stockton, once Master of that Lodge, with instructions to forward the same to the last Master of that Lodge, and having received no communication in answer,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary continue his exertions to obtain the warrant of Unity Lodge, No. 7.

The Grand Secretary reported that copies of the proceedings of this Lodge have been printed agreeably to the order of the Grand Lodge at their last Communication, and have been

forwarded to the different Grand Lodges in the United States and elsewhere from whom communications have been received.

It appearing to the Grand Lodge that the sum of seventeen dollars and seventy-one cents charged to St. John's Lodge, under date of November 8th, 5803, hath been duly appropriated by the said Lodge in charities, altho' the same hath not been actually paid; therefore,

Resolved, That St. John's Lodge, No. 2, be permitted to apply the said sum agreeably to the resolve of the said Lodge, and that upon the production of the receipt for the same at the next Grand Communication, the said Lodge shall have credit for the same in the books of this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the committee appointed to revise the General Regulations of the Grand Lodge be continued with their former powers.

Resolved, That the further consideration of the memorial presented by Brother Baxter for granting a warrant for a new Lodge in Sussex, be postponed until the next Communication of this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the blank in the Grand Secretary's account be filled up with sixty dollars for his services, and that the said account amounting to sixty dollars and seventy-six cents in the whole, be paid by the Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the appointment of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following persons being duly nominated and balloted for, were unanimously chosen, to wit:

Aaron D. Woodruff, Right Worshipful Grand Master.
William McKissack, Deputy Grand Master.
Thomas Bullman, Senior Grand Warden.
Franklin Davenport, Junior Grand Warden.
Jonathan Rhea, Grand Treasurer.
Jacob Benjamin, Grand Secretary.
George McDonald, Deputy Grand Secretary.

The Right Worshipful Grand Master, Aaron D. Woodruff, and the Deputy Grand Master, Dr. McKissack, being absent, were severally installed by proxies, according to the ancient forms and ceremonies, and being duly proclaimed, received the accustomed salutations of the brethren present. The other Grand Officers present were severally installed into their respective offices, according to ancient usage, and being duly

proclaimed, received the accustomed salutations of the brethren present.

The warrant from Union Lodge, No. 6, is received, and ordered to be deposited in the pedestal of the Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That Brother Bentley be directed to call upon Brother Benjamin Freeman for the warrant of Hiram Lodge, No. 4, and return it to the next Grand Lodge, to be deposited in the pedestal of this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That Brothers Davenport, Bullman, and McDonald be a committee to draft suitable addresses to the late Right Worshipful Grand Master, and the Deputy Grand Secretary, on their retiring from their respective offices which they have filled to the entire satisfaction of this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be directed to pay to Brother Andrew Howell the sum of ten dollars out of the funds of the Grand Lodge for the use of the Widow Murphy.

The Right Worshipful Grand Master reported that since the last Communication he had granted a dispensation to Washington Lodge, No. 12, to hold a Royal Arch Chapter.

The Grand Lodge then closed in good harmony, to meet again at the city of Trenton, on the second Tuesday in November next.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1806.

At a yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey, holden at the city of Trenton, on the 11th day of November, A. L. 5806.

PRESENT.

R. W. AARON D. WOODRUFF, Grand Master.
WILLIAM McKISSACK, Deputy Grand Master.
THOMAS BULLMAN, Senior Grand Warden.
FRANKLIN DAVENPORT, Junior Grand Warden.
THOMAS ARMSTRONG, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
SAMUEL J. READ, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
GEORGE McDONALD, Deputy Grand Secretary.

Aaron Baylan, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.
Hugh McDonald, Moses Smith, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

No representation from Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
No representation from Unity Lodge, No. 7.
No representation from Harmony Lodge, No. 8.
Benjamin Champneys, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
No representation from Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10.
Joshua S. Howell, James M. Whitall, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.
John Outcalt, Alpheus Freeman, Washington Lodge, No. 12.
Abraham Godwin, Paterson Lodge, No. 13.
No representation from Farmers' Lodge, No. 14.
Benjamin Price, Federal Lodge, No. 15.
Thomas Stuart, Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.
John T. Bentley, Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.
Samuel J. Read, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.

——— Hendrie, Samuel L. James, Isaac W. Crane.
R. W. John Beatty, John Gifford,

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, &c.

A receipt was produced from St. John's Lodge, No. 2, according to a resolve of the Grand Lodge at the last Communication, amounting to $17.71, which was approved of, and ordered to pass to the credit of said Lodge.

Resolved, That Brothers Howell and Godwin do settle the accounts of the Grand Treasurer.

Brother Bentley produced to the Grand Lodge the warrant of Hiram Lodge, No. 4, agreeably to a resolution of this Lodge, which warrant is ordered to be deposited in the pedestal of this Grand Lodge.

A letter was received from Brother Matthew Nimmo, enclosing the warrant of Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10, and offering his aid in collecting all fees and dues owing to this Grand Lodge, which may be recoverable from the late members of that Lodge.

Resolved, That the said warrant be accepted, and deposited in the pedestal of the Grand Lodge, and that Brother Matthew Nimmo be requested and authorized to collect such fees and dues, and remit the same to this Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Secretary forward a copy of this resolution to him.

NOVA CÆSAREA LODGE, No. 10,
CINCINNATI, 10th December, A. L. 5805.

Right Worshipful John Beatty, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey:

RESPECTED BROTHER.—The painful duty has devolved upon me of announcing to you the dissolution of Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10, and of

enclosing to you the charter upon which, for upwards of fourteen years, that Lodge has acted. In doing this, I not only express my own feelings, but the feelings of most of my brothers, when I say it is with sensations of the deepest regret you are addressed on the present occasion. And while, by the authority of my brothers, I am performing this irksome task, it would be insulting you, and not rendering justice to ourselves, were we not to state our reasons for so doing.

In doing which, we are obliged to call your attention to the commencement of our operations. We began at a time when this country was yet in its infancy, occupied and surrounded by hostile savages. At this period we had but few settlers who had, or indeed who could, with any certainty, fix on a permanent residence; and a number of our early members were either in this unsettled state, or attached to the armies of the United States. We do not mean to throw any aspersions against the elder brothers of our Lodge; this is far from being our design. But in justice to ourselves, we must say that many, very many of them, never settled their accounts with the Lodge, and it is owing to this circumstance that the present members of Lodge No. 10 are unable to pay the debt due by it to the Grand Lodge. With few or no exceptions the present members have paid their fees, and relieved the Lodge from debts of a local nature. Many of our brothers have passed that bourne from whence no traveler returns—many are dispersed in foreign lands, and some there are, of whom, alas! we can give you no account. Under them the debt has chiefly accumulated; by them it ought to have been paid, and not by the present members, who had no share in its contraction, and upon whom, of course, no just demand can be made. Independent of this circumstance, in consequence of our remote situation, we never could send a representative to the Grand Lodge, which is a very valuable privilege, calculated to produce among the Masonic brethren that unanimity and concord so much characteristic of the institution.

We deem it unnecessary to say more on the present subject. We trust and hope the Grand Lodge will not ascribe any other reason to us for our procedure; we feel confident we have violated no principle which good men ought to regard, and whatever construction may be put on our conduct, we shall have that inward satisfaction which we cannot be deprived of, and which is far superior to the praises of the world.

Before I close this letter, I conceive it necessary to state that the debts due to Lodge No. 10 are considerable—an account of which, with all notes and bonds in our possession, shall be forwarded to you when you please; and I am authorized to say there is not a brother in this country but will cheerfully assist the Grand Lodge in the collection thereof.

With sentiments of high respect for you, my worthy brother, and the members of the Grand Lodge, I have the honor of subscribing myself your very obed't, h'ble servant, MATTHEW NIMMO,

Late Master of Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10.

On application of Samuel L. James, Israel R. Clawson, John Cox and others, all Master Masons, requesting that a warrant may be granted to them to hold a Lodge at Salem, in the county of Salem, and to be called Salem Lodge, No. 19,

Resolved, That a warrant be accordingly granted to the said Samuel L. James, Master, Israel R. Clawson, Senior Warden, and John Cox, Junior Warden, agreeably to their said application.

Resolved, That Brothers Hendrie and Peter Smith, of Harmony Lodge, and Brothers Baxter and Armstrong, of Farmers Lodge, be a committee to report, at the next Grand Communication, the propriety of granting a warrant to Christopher Longstreet and others, and that the Grand Secretary do give information to said brethren; *and it is further resolved,* that if the said committee report favorable, that the said Christopher Longstreet and others be required to present to the Grand Lodge a formal petition.

Resolved, That the committee appointed to revise the General Regulations of the Grand Lodge be continued, with their former powers, and that they report to the next Grand Communication.

The committee appointed to settle the accounts of the Treasurer report that they have examined the accounts and vouchers of the Treasurer, and find a balance in his hands of $280.96; which report was read and approved, &c.

On the representation of Brother John T. Bentley, Master of Cincinnati Lodge, that it was the unanimous request of said Lodge that they might be permitted to hold their Lodge at Hanover, instead of Montville,

Resolved, That their request be granted.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the appointment of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were nominated, balloted for, and unanimously chosen, to wit:

Right Worshipful Aaron D. Woodruff, Grand Master.
" " William McKissack, Deputy Grand Master.
" " Thomas Bullman, Senior Grand Warden.
" " Franklin Davenport, Junior Grand Warden.
" " Jonathan Rhea, Grand Treasurer.
" " Samuel J. Read, Grand Secretary.
" " George McDonald, Deputy Grand Secretary.

The Right Worshipful Grand Master and all the Grand Officers elect being present, were severally installed, according to

ancient form and ceremonies, and being duly proclaimed, received the accustomed salutations of the brethren present.

The Grand Lodge then closed in good harmony, to meet again at the city of Trenton, on the second Tuesday of November next.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1807.

At a yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey, holden at the city of Trenton, on the tenth day of November, A. L. 5807.

PRESENT.

M. W. AARON D. WOODRUFF, Grand Master.
R. W. WILLIAM McKISSACK, Deputy Grand Master.
THOMAS BULLMAN, Senior Grand Warden.
FRANKLIN DAVENPORT, Junior Grand Warden.
JONATHAN RHEA, Grand Treasurer.
SAMUEL J. READ, Grand Secretary.
GEORGE McDONALD, Deputy Grand Secretary.
ALPHEUS FREEMAN, Senior Deacon.
WILLIAM DUNHAM, Junior Deacon.

Representatives from the following Lodges:

William McKissack, George McDonald, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.

Isaac Andress, Jacob Holsey, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

Jonathan Rhea, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

John Gustin, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.

George Burgin, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

Franklin Davenport, James B. Caldwell, Dayton Lummis, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.

Aaron Hazert, William Dunham, ——— Swift, Washington Lodge, No. 12.

William Elston, Farmers Lodge, No. 14.

Benjamin Price, Federal Lodge, No. 15.

Thomas Bullman, Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.

John T. Bentley, Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.

Samuel J. Read, Mahlon Budd, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.

Samuel L. James, Israel R. Clawson, Joseph Brown, Salem Lodge, No. 19.

R. W. John Beatty, P. G. M., R. W. John N. Cummings, P. G. M., Abraham Godwin, of Lodge No. 13.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

It appearing to the Grand Lodge, by information from the Right Worshipful Grand Master, that since the last Grand Communication application hath been made to him by John Mott and above five others, all Master Masons, requesting a dispensation to be granted unto them to make Masons, and to do every other act and thing appertaining thereto, according to the most ancient customs and usages of the Royal Craft, and that he did accordingly grant unto them his dispensation, agreeably to their request; and it also appearing, by the information of the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, that in pursuance of the said dispensation he did, on the fifth of September, A. L. 5807, consecrate and constitute a Lodge at Middletown Point, in the county of Monmouth, by the name of Trinity Lodge, No. 20, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and did regularly install the several officers named in the said dispensation; and the said John Mott appearing before this Grand Lodge, and in behalf of himself and others, the brethren of the said Trinity Lodge, No. 20, do respectfully request that this Grand Lodge would be pleased to grant a warrant to the said John Mott, Master, Robert Shannon, Senior Warden, Jesse Hedges, Junior Warden, authorizing them to hold a Lodge at Middletown Point, in the county of Monmouth, by the name of Trinity Lodge, No. 20—it was thereupon moved and seconded, and unanimously

Resolved, That a warrant do issue accordingly, agreeably to the petition aforesaid.

A letter was received by this Grand Lodge from Francis Minisier and five others, late members of Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10, requesting to be reinstated, and that their warrant, now in the pedestal of the Grand Lodge, may be returned to them. It is thereupon

Resolved, That the Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden and the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary be a committee to report on the subject contained in the said letter, this afternoon.

CINCINNATI, November, 5806.

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL BRETHREN:—We, members of Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10, the warrant of which the G. L. has received, from the

love we bear to Masonry, and the particular regard which we have for the charter under which we met and happily worked for several years, and from the like expressions being made by many of our brethren among us, we pray of you, R. W. B., to lay before the G. L. this our petition, to be reinstated in our charter as N. C. L., No. 10.

We are further induced to this step, from the ruinous state in which the Craft are involved, and the desire to see the twig of "Cassia" again shoot forth, and Masonry flourish among us.

We are aware, R. W., of the defalcation of No. 10 to the G. L., and we have, in a former letter, stated our inability to meet it; but we will use our exertions to secure and transmit to the G. L. all that can be collected, and we are of opinion considerable may be, we having specialties, &c., in our hands to answer it.

The object of our present petition is that our brethren of the G. L. would (should they think it compatible with their duty) restore to us our charter, No. 10, and forgive so much of the dues which are in arrearage as cannot be collected.

We are, Right Worthy Brethren, with sentiments of regard, your affectionate brethren.

FRANCIS MENNESSIER, P. M.,
WM. GOFORTH, JR., P. M.,
BURROWES SMITH, P. M.,
THOMAS RAMSEY, M.,
ROBERT BRASHER, M.,
DUDLEY AVORY, M.

P. S. Please to address the reply of the G. L. to Br. Francis Menisier, Cincinnati.

To the R. W. Br. Woodruff, G. M., New Jersey.

Communications were received from the Grand Lodges of North Carolina and Tennessee, Maryland and Pennsylvania, on the subject of appointing delegates to form a Grand Convention, to establish a Constitution of a Superintending Grand Lodge of America; whereupon it was

Resolved, That the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, William McKissack, Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden, Thomas Bullman, Right Worshipful Past Grand Master, John Noble Cummings, and the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Secretary, George McDonald, be a committee to report thereon.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment during pleasure.

The Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

Brothers Andress and Caldwell are appointed a committee to settle the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, and report thereon at this sitting of the Lodge.

The committee to whom was referred the communications of North Carolina, Tennessee, Maryland and Pennsylvania, report:

That they are of opinion that the formation of one Grand Lodge, to preside over all the Grand Lodges in the United States, will be impracticable; but your committee are of opinion that a Convention, to meet in November next, or any time which may be agreed upon, of deputies from the different Grand Lodges, may conduce to form a plan of union and communion which may have a tendency to promote and increase the harmony and good order among the Lodges throughout the United States; and they are also of opinion that Philadelphia will be the most central place, and as soon as seven Lodges have agreed, that this Grand Lodge do send deputies to the said Convention.

Which report being read was agreed to, and Brothers the Right Worshipful Grand Master, Aaron D. Woodruff, and the late Right Worshipful Grand Master, John Beatty, and John N. Cummings, were appointed deputies for that purpose.

The committee to whom was referred the settlement of the accounts of the Grand Treasurer report that they have carefully examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, and that a balance of remains in his hands, which report was agreed to by this Lodge.

The committee to whom was referred the letter of Francis Minisier and others, late members of Nova Cæsarea Lodge, report that consistent with the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, the application from the late members of Nova Cæsarea Lodge cannot be granted; which report was agreed to by the Lodge, and the Grand Secretary is directed to inform Brother Minisier thereof.

The late Right Worshipful Grand Master, Beatty, reported that he had obtained the warrant of Unity Lodge, No. 7, which he presented to the Lodge; whereupon it is

Ordered, That the said warrant be deposited in the pedestal of this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That Lodge No. 5 do make a report at the next Grand Com-

munication of the state of their Lodge, their officers last elected, and to show the Grand Lodge that they are working according to ancient rule and custom among Masons, and in default thereof that they be struck off and their warrant made null and void.

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer make a statement of all the property belonging to the Grand Lodge, and report the same at the next Grand Communication.

The late Right Worshipful Grand Master, Beatty, reports that

Under the dispensation granted to him by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, he did visit Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16, and has the satisfaction to certify to the Grand Communication that he found the Master and Wardens well informed, the system and symmetry of their Work well executed and complete, order and harmony prevailing.

The Committee appointed to revise and publish the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Lodge made report that the same have been revised by them and the number of copies printed; whereupon it was moved and seconded that some appropriate songs be selected by the said Committee and added thereto.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made report, that

Since the last Communication he had met the brethren of Salem Lodge, No. 19, and had duly installed the several officers of said Lodge; that he had also visited Woodbury Lodge, No. 11, and Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18, and is happy to express the satisfaction he received at the installation of the officers of Salem Lodge, and at the meeting of Lodges No. 11 and 18, with the good order, zeal and skill manifested and observed by the brethren.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the appointment of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were nominated and unanimously appointed, to wit:

Aaron D. Woodruff, Most Worshipful Grand Master.
Wm. McKissack, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.
Thos. Bullman, Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden.
Franklin Davenport, Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden.
Jonathan Rhea, Worshipful Grand Treasurer.
Samuel J. Read, Worshipful Grand Secretary.
George McDonald, Deputy Grand Secretary.
The Most Worshipful Grand Master and all the Grand

Officers elect being present, were severally installed according to ancient forms and ceremonies, and being duly proclaimed, received the accustomed salutations of the brethren present.

The Grand Lodge then closed in good harmony at 8 o'clock, to meet again at the city of Trenton, on the second Tuesday in November next.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1808.

At a yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey, holden at the city of Trenton, on the 8th day of November, A. L. 5808.

PRESENT.

M. W. A. D. WOODRUFF, Grand Master.
WM. McKISSACK, Deputy Grand Master.
THOMAS BULLMAN, Senior Grand Warden.
FRANKLIN DAVENPORT, Junior Grand Warden.
JONATHAN RHEA, Grand Treasurer.
SAMUEL J. READ, Grand Secretary.
GEORGE McDONALD, Deputy Grand Secretary.
ALPHEUS FREEMAN, Senior Deacon.
ALEXANDER R. COX, Junior Deacon.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form—Representatives from the following Lodges attending, to wit:

Wm. McKissack, George McDonald, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.
Isaac Andress, Jabez Campfield, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
A. D. Woodruff, J. Rhea, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
John Gustin, John Johnson, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.
Azel Pierson, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
Franklin Davenport, Dayton Lummis, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.
Aaron Hassart, John Keyworth, Washington Lodge, No. 12.
Benjamin Price, Federal Lodge, No. 15.
Thomas Bullman, Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.
John T. Bentley, Ezra K. Squire, Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.
Samuel J. Read, Mahlon Bund, Alexander R. Cox, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.
Robert Shannon, Trinity Lodge, No. 20.

Andrew Agnew,	Barnt De Kline,	Joseph Phillips,
John Phelan,	Ephraim S. Ogden,	R. W. P. G. M., J. Beatty.
Samuel Beach,	John Gifford,	

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made report that the officers of Lodge No. 5 had resumed their Work, collected and paid forward their dues to the Grand Lodge; therefore,

Resolved, That the said report be accepted.

The Grand Treasurer made report on the state of the funds of the Grand Lodge, which was read and ordered to be filed.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made report, that

Since the last Communication, from indisposition during the summer, his intention of visiting all the Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge was frustrated. He was enabled to visit only Woodbury Lodge, No. 11, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18, Salem Lodge, No. 19, and Trinity Lodge, No. 20, and has the pleasure of expressing his great satisfaction and zeal in the intelligence and zeal of the presiding officers and in the harmony and good order observed in the Lodges, and also in the attentive and affectionate reception he met with. He has, however, to remark that there is some difference in the mode of working in the Lodges, which tho' not affecting the "antient land marks," yet he could wish to be remedied by establishing more uniformity. The mode by which this may be done he submits to the consideration of this Grand Lodge. He has received communications from the Grand Lodges of Nova Scotia, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Maryland, North Carolina and Tennessee, South Carolina and Kentucky. In the communication from New Hampshire the Grand Lodge will perceive regulations which are new to us, to wit:. District Deputy Grand Masters, and also Grand Lecturers and Instructors. You will also receive an address from the Past G. M., on the subject of the Higher Degrees of Masonry, both of which I think worthy the attention of the Grand Lodge. In those from Connecticut the Grand Lodge will find that the Grand Lodge of Connecticut do not agree to the proposition of constituting a Grand Lodge over the United States, or of a triennial Convention.

In the communications from Maryland it is stated that the Grand Lodge of Maryland have, for reasons set forth, disapproved of the Grand Lodge constituted in the State of Delaware, and consider their association as illegal.

In the communications from North Carolina and Tennessee, it appears that at a meeting held on the 28th of November last, the Committee of the Grand Lodge reported that the principle of constituting by a Convention of Masons to be holden in the city of Washington, a Superintending

Grand Lodge of America, has been adopted by such number of the Grand Lodges as will authorize that Grand Lodge to appoint delegates, and the Grand Lodge did thereupon proceed to the appointment of delegates to represent that Grand Lodge in the said Grand Convention of Masons to be holden for that purpose.

In the communications from South Carolina, it appears that the two Grand Lodges of that State, "Free and Accepted" and "York Masons," have agreed to unite and to establish one Grand Lodge, to be called the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, and have agreed to abolish the distinction of "Antient" and "Modern," and to admit brethren from foreign Lodges upon the customary test and entering into an obligation not to reveal any part of the mysteries and ceremonies.

In the communications from Kentucky, it appears that the Grand Lodge of that State have requested the Grand Master to appoint one or more delegates to meet the delegates from the several Grand Lodges at the city of Washington, on the 15th of January, 5808.

In the communications from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, it appears that the Grand Lodge of that State have adopted a resolution similar to that of this Grand Lodge, to appoint delegates to attend a Convention at the city of Philadelphia.

Upon these communications the Grand Master thinks it is his duty to observe that the mode adopted by the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire appears to be well calculated to establish that uniformity in working which is so exceedingly desirable and to be wished for in an institution so entirely pure in its principles and commendable in its practice, and which embraces all that regards the social virtues and happiness of man. How far the establishing of a Superintending Grand Lodge for the United States of America would subserve the great purposes of Masonry has with us been problematical, and from its first suggestion not been favored; but if the subject has been so far digested as that the appointment of delegates may have, in a majority of the Grand Lodges of the United States taken place, perhaps the deliberations of this Grand Lodge may be employed to an useful purpose in further considering so important a subject.

The Grand Master would also call the attention of the Grand Lodge to the proceedings adopted by the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, and particularly to that part which respects the abolishing of the distinction of ancient and modern Masonry. This seems to have been first adopted by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and with complete success. It is really much to be regretted that those professing the same objects and instituted for the same benevolent purpose, should be separated on account of forms or names which do not regard the essentials and the original design of Masonry, and it is highly worthy the consideration of

this Grand Lodge, whether the same regulations may not be adopted in the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

Which report was read and ordered to be entered on the minutes, and the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Secretary, and Brother Andress, are appointed a committee to report on the several matters contained in the said report of the Most Worshipful.

On the representation of Brother Johnson, of Harmony Lodge, No. 8, that it was the unanimous request of the said Lodge that they might be permitted to hold their Lodge alternately at Hardwick and Newton, with power to the said Lodge to regulate the time of meeting. It was thereupon

Resolved, That the request of Harmony Lodge be granted.

Resolved, That Brothers be a committee to settle the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, and report thereon to this Grand Lodge this afternoon.

The Lodge was called from labor to refreshment.

The Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

The committee appointed to settle the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, report that

They have carefully examined the said accounts and vouchers, and that there is a balance due the Lodge in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of .

Which report was read and agreed to.

The committee to whom was referred the communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, beg leave to recommend to the consideration of this Grand Lodge the propriety of abolishing all distinction between ancient and modern Masonry, believing that the principles of the two Orders are the same, and that they are separated only by form, and that by this means the grand objects of Masonry will be more easily attained. The Committee would beg leave further to recommend, that as it appears from the report of the Most Worshipful, that there exists some difference in the mode of working in some of the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and believing uniformity in working to be highly

essential and proper, they therefore suggest the propriety of appointing Lecturing Master or Masters, whose reasonable expenses shall be paid out of the funds of this Grand Lodge.

Which report being read, was ordered to lay over until the next Grand Communication.

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer do loan the sum of four hundred dollars on good security, or invest the same into Bank Stock, whichever he in his discretion may deem most for the good of this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer pay out of the funds of this Grand Lodge for the tuition of John R. Wrighter, the son of David Wrighter, the Grand Tyler of this Lodge, for one year, any sum not exceeding ten dollars.

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be directed, and he is hereby authorized to pay the dinner bill of the Grand Officers and members of this Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were nominated and unanimously chosen, to wit:

Aaron D. Woodruff, Most Worshipful Grand Master.

William McKissack, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.

Thomas Bullman, Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden.

Franklin Davenport, Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden.

Samuel J. Read, Worshipful Grand Secretary.

George McDonald, Worshipful Deputy Grand Secretary.

Jonathan Rhea, Worshipful Grand Treasurer.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master and all the Grand Officers elect being present, were severally installed according to ancient forms and ceremonies, and being duly proclaimed, received the accustomed salutations of the brethren present.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master, in virtue of his power, did appoint the Rev. Joseph Willard, Worshipful Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey,

The Grand Lodge closed in good harmony, to meet again at the city of Trenton, on the second Tuesday in November next.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1809.

At a yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey, held at their hall, in the city of Trenton, on the 14th day of November, A. L. 5809.

PRESENT.

M. W. AARON D. WOODRUFF, Grand Master.
R. W. WILLIAM McKISSACK, Deputy Grand Master.
THOMAS BULLMAN, Senior Grand Warden.
FRANKLIN DAVENPORT, Junior Grand Warden.
JONATHAN RHEA, Grand Treasurer.
SAMUEL J. READ, Grand Secretary.
GEORGE McDONALD, Deputy Grand Secretary.
ALPHEUS FREEMAN, Senior Grand Deacon.
MAHLON BUDD, Junior Grand Deacon.
DAVID WRIGHTER, Grand Tyler.

VISITING BROTHER—John Beatty, Esq., Past Grand Master.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form—Representatives from the several Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, attending as follows, to wit:

Wm. McKissack, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.
Jabez Campfield, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
A. D. Woodruff, Jona. Rhea, N. Belleville, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
John Johnson, John Gustin, Eph'm Green, Jr., Harmony Lodge, No. 8.
George Burgin, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
Franklin Davenport, James B. Caldwell, J. M. Whitall, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.
Aaron Hassart, Wm. Dunham, Washington Lodge, No. 12.
Wm. Ellison, Paterson Lodge, No. 13.
Wm. Elston, Farmers Lodge, No. 14.
Benj. Price, Wm. Wearts, Federal Lodge, No. 15.
Thos. Bullman, Christian J. H. Eater, Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.
Jeptha B. Munn, Ezra B. Squire, Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.
Samuel J. Read, Mahlon Budd, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.
John Dunham, Salem Lodge, No. 19.
Robert Shannon, Trinity Lodge, No. 20.

The minutes of the last Communication having been read and approved, the Most Worshipful Grand Master appointed the Worshipful Deputy Grand Secretary, McDonald, Brothers Cald-

well and Dunham, to settle the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, and to report thereon this afternoon.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made report:

That from the communications received, several subjects of considerable moment to the Society will necessarily merit and receive the attention of this meeting. That of the first importance is contained in the communications from the Grand Lodges of North Carolina and Tennessee, wherein it is stated that a sufficient number of Lodges have agreed to form a Convention at the city of Washington, and have proposed the third Monday in January next for that purpose. The Grand Lodge will no doubt think it proper to bestow some attention, at this time, to this proposal. Other matters contained in the communications from the Grand Lodges of Maryland and South Carolina, so far as the same respect the interests of Masonry in our sister States, seem worthy of attention. The Grand Lodge of Maryland have passed a resolution disapproving of the Grand Lodge established in Delaware, considering the proceedings thereon unconstitutional.

In South Carolina a division has taken place among the Lodges, which seems at present to have a very unfavorable aspect. The two Grand Lodges, which had existed in that State for some years, the one Ancient, the other Modern, have united under the name of *Free and Accepted*, and admitted the Modern, without going through the Ancient forms. This has given offence to a number of the Lodges, who have formed a Convention, and established a new Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons. On this subject the Grand Lodges of Virginia and Maryland have acted.

The Grand Master further reports that he has visited Brearley Lodge, No. 9, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18, and Salem Lodge, No. 19, and is happy to express his satisfaction in the good conduct of the officers and brethren, and that they appear to be progressing in the good Work.

Resolved, That the several matters referred to in the communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, be laid upon the table for consideration at the next meeting of the Grand Lodge.

The Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment during pleasure.

The Grand Lodge was again called from refreshment to labor.

The committee to whom was referred the settlement of the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, reported that

They found his account as exhibited just and true, and that there remained in his hands the sum of six hundred and eighty-eight dollars and seventy-five cents.

Which report was read and approved.

The resolution laid over from the last Grand Communication, directing the expenses of the representatives of the several Lodges while attending the Grand Lodge, to be paid out of the funds of the Grand Lodge, was called up, and after a full discussion and consideration of the same, was disagreed to.

That part of the report of the committee to whom was referred the communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Master at the last Grand Lodge, respecting the abolishing all distinctions between the ancient and modern Lodges, and introducing an uniform system of working throughout the subordinate Lodges, was called up, and also the report of the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, who had visited several of the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge since the last yearly Communication, suggesting an uniform system of working throughout the different Lodges of this State. Whereupon that part of the said report which respects the abolishing the distinction between ancient and modern Masonry was disagreed to, and that part which respects the establishment of an uniform system of working throughout the State was laid over for future consideration.

Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden, Grand Secretary, and the Worshipful Past Grand Master Beatty, be a committee to consider of and introduce an uniform system of working to be observed throughout the several Lodges of this State, and that they report the same to the next Grand Communication.

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer, by and with the advice and consent of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, be directed and authorized to procure appropriate furniture for the hall of the Grand Lodge, provide seats for the Grand Officers, curtains for the windows, and such other necessaries as may be requisite for the hall and rooms adjoining; and also to put in decent order and repair the front of the hall, and to report thereof to the next Communication of the Grand Lodge for confirmation and allowance of the necessary expenses.

Upon the petition of Stephen D. Day, Joseph Munn, Nathaniel H. Baldwin, and twenty-three others, all Master Masons, a warrant for a new Lodge, to be called Union Lodge, No. 21, to hold their meetings alternately in Orange, in the county of Essex, and State of New Jersey, and in Bloomfield, in the county and State aforesaid, two years in each place, and Jeptha Baldwin was appointed the first Master of said Lodge, Alexander Wilson, the first Senior Warden, and Matthias Smith, the first Junior Warden.

Resolved, That twenty dollars be paid to the Grand Tyler out of the funds of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge now proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were nominated and unanimously chosen to the respective offices, to wit:

An. Dn. Woodruff, Esq., Most Worshipful Grand Master.

Wm, McKissack, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.

Thos. Bullman, Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden.

Franklin Davenport, Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden.

Samuel J. Read, Right Worshipful Grand Secretary.

Jonathan Rhea, Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer.

George McDonald, Worshipful Deputy Grand Treasurer.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master and the several Grand Officers elect being present, were installed according to ancient form, were duly proclaimed, and received the customary salutations.

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be directed to pay the dinner bill of the Grand Officers and representatives to this Grand Lodge.

The business having been gone through, the Grand Lodge closed in good harmony and according to ancient form, to meet again at their Hall, in Trenton, on the second Tuesday of November, A. L. 5810.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1810.

At a yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, held at their Hall in the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, the 13th day of November, A. L. 5810.

PRESENT.

M. W. AARON D. WOODRUFF, Grand Master.
R. W. FRANKLIN DAVENPORT, Senior G. Warden, p. t.
WILLIAM DUNHAM, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
JONATHAN RHEA, Grand Treasurer.
SAMUEL J. READ, Grand Secretary.
JOHN KEYWORTH, Senior Deacon.
JOHN GIFFORD, Junior Deacon.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. The following Representatives attended from the different Lodges, to wit:

Ephraim F. Ogden, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.
Thomas Crane, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
Andrew S. Hunter, Isaac Barnes, Jr., Henry Bellerjeau, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
John Gustin, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.
Philip Ayres, Brearly Lodge, No. 9.
Franklin Davenport, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.
William Dunham, John Anderson, James Swift, Washington Lodge, No. 12.
Mahlon Budd, Anthony S. Earl, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.
Adam Cook, William Lambert, Salem Lodge, No. 19.

P. G. M. John Beatty, Joseph Palmer, William Burnet,
John Gifford, Thomas P. Johnson, Alpheus Freeman,
John Joline, Samuel Vernon, Barnt De Klyne,
J. Outcalt.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master reports, that

He has visited since the last Grand Communication, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11; Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18, and Salem Lodge, No. 19; and that the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master has visited St. John's Lodge, No. 2; Washington Lodge, No. 12; Cincinnati Lodge, No. 15; Trinity Lodge, No. 20, and has installed the officers of Union Lodge, No. 21, in due form.

The Lodge was called from labor to refreshment during pleasure.

The Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

A petition and representation was received from John S. Gano and nineteen others, late members of Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10, praying, for certain reasons therein set forth, that the warrant of their Lodge, now in the pedestal of this Grand Lodge, may be returned to them.

To the Right Worshipful Grand Master, &c., of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in the State of New Jersey:

We, the subscribers, formerly members of Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10, most respectfully show, that we never did and never have approved of the conduct of a small majority of said Lodge by the returning the charter or warrant obtained from your Lodge. And thereof we beg leave to represent, that the whole procedure, in sending back said warrant, was contrary to the Bye-Laws and Constitution which ought to have governed them at that time. They called a Lodge, and the question was taken up and acted upon the same evening (without reference as the Bye-Laws direct); and those who voted for it were principally young members who were totally unacquainted with the duties and regulations of Masonry and of the manner of working. We beg leave further to state, that instead of a month's consideration of the question being granted (as the Bye-Laws require), every advantage and intrigue was practised to effect their scheme, in sending back the warrant and in getting a dispensation from Kentucky Grand Lodge; by reason whereof we have been deprived of the pleasure and advantage of associating ourselves together as a Lodge. Besides all this, the new Lodge now holds the jewels and furniture of the former Lodge, which in justice belongs to the members composing Nova Cæsarea Lodge. There was also much money due said Lodge, and from those members who could not readily pay, due-bills were taken for the sum due, which belonged to the G. Lodge, which due-bills the new Lodge had in possession, but which are now missing, and perhaps *wholly destroyed.* We therefore most humbly intreat for your interference, and that the old charter may be returned to us under such restrictions as you, in your wisdom, may deem expedient to grant. We would also further state, that one of our Brothers, before his decease, left a donation of a valuable lot in this town to the old Lodge in the following words, (viz.): "To Nova Cæsarea Lodge of Free Masons, in Cincinnati, I give and devise a Town Lot in Cincinnati. I believe the number is 135. However, it is the only one I hold in the town, and situate on the corner of a square and on the brow of the bank south of Hezekiah Flint. The said lot, of whatsoever number it may be, to be held in trust by the Master and Wardens of the said Lodge and their successors for ever, in fee for the use and benefit of the same Lodge." (Signed) WILLIAM MCMILLAN.

We therefore think it improper that the new Lodge should have any participation in the said bequest, a number of us being known as members of said Lodge. We have thought proper to state (thus briefly) the facts, and pray for such relief as you may think proper to grant.

And as in duty bound, will ever pray.

THOS. THOMPSON,	CULBERTSON PARK,
DANIEL MAYO,	ANDREW BRANNON,
DAVID L. CARNEYE,	ROBERT BRASHER,
PATK. DICKEY,	TEEL WILLIAMS,
E. HUTCHINSON,	JOHN CRANMER,
JOHN S. GANO,	GRIFFIN YEATMAN,
JOHN LUDLOW,	WM. STANLEY.

Cincinnati, May 9th, 1810.

MEMORANDUM:—A Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons was formed under a charter or warrant from the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, in the town of Cincinnati, by the name of Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10, to which Lodge a number of persons belonged who was not permanent residents, and owing to the remote situation of the Lodge and difficulty in keeping up a regular communication with the Grand Lodge, before there was regular post offices established, occasioned the Lodge to communicate by private conveyance as they could find opportunity, and in one instance the remittance and communication was miscarried; and many withdrew from the Lodge without paying up their dues, and some time after we had a number joined the Lodge and we are sorry to state was composed of untempered mortar, and the cement was not sufficient to hold the work together, and by unfair and improper means got a majority of one to consent to return the warrant under which we had worked, back to New Jersey, though there was a majority of the actual members against it, many of whom was not present when the vote was taken and highly disapproved of the measure, and have never associated with the Lodge since, as they conceived improper measures had been pursued and the question taken up and decided without giving proper notice and due consideration, and those who was opposed have been deprived of the blessings and privileges resulting from so highly esteemed institution, and a worthy Brother who is deceased, left a donation to the said Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10, and to their successors, as follows:

"To Nova Cæsarea Harmony Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, in Cincinnati, I give and devise a Town lott in Cincinnati. I believe the number is 135, however, it is the only one I hold in the town, and situate on the corner of a square, and on the brow of the bank south of Hezekiah Flint's; the said lot, of whatsoever number it may be, to be held in trust by the Master and Wardens of the said Lodge and their successors forever, in fee for the use and benefit of the same Lodge."

The persons who sent the warrant back obtained a dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, under another name, and, contrary to justice, equity, and every principle of right and more especially that of Masons, they now hold the books and furniture of Nova Cæsarea Lodge, that was procured at the expense of said first Lodge; and it was the practice of the Lodge when brothers was not prepared to settle up their dues, to give due-bills, which due-bills amounted to a considerable sum, which fell also into the hands of the present Lodge, tho' really ought to have been appropriated to pay off the Grand Lodge dues under which we sat; and since enquiry has been made respecting said due-bills it is said they cannot be found, and there is a very few members who belonged to it that are now in the present Lodge. We are very anxious to have the warrant returned or to be reinstated in such a way as the wisdom of the Grand Lodge may devise, for we are so situated that we cannot with propriety join a Lodge that has acted so derogatory to the true principles of Masonry and every tie that binds them. Our love and admiration of true Masonry cannot be extinguished, but we wish the true light to shine in every heart throughout the globe and that we may be all cemented in the strongest bands of brotherly love.

John S. Gano,
Griffin Yeatman,
Culbertson Park.

N. B.—The Lodge above referred to as holding a dispensation under the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, has been admitted into the Grand Lodge of the State of Ohio, and after we have the warrant or charter returned, if so fortunate, then by the discharge of the Grand Lodge dues of New Jersey, we wish to join the Grand Lodge of the State of Ohio, by their jurisdiction we may then obtain our books and furniture, &c., and probably harmonize and work as becomes faithful and true Masons.

Referred to Past Grand Master Beatty, Brothers Rhea and McDonald, to report thereon during the present Communication.

A petition was presented by Brother John Dunham and above eight others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted to them for holding and forming a new Lodge, to be called Friendship Lodge, No. 22, and that John Dunham be the first Master, Josiah Reay the first Senior Warden, and William Darmon the first Junior Warden of the said Lodge, to be held at Port Elizabeth, in the county of Cumberland. The Grand Lodge, after due consideration,

Resolved, That the prayer of the said petition be granted, and that a warrant do issue accordingly.

A petition was presented, signed by John Gustin, and seven others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted unto them to form a new Lodge, to be held in the township of Frankford, in the county of Sussex, and to be called Augusta Lodge, No. 23, after due consideration, it is

Resolved, That the prayer of the said petition be granted, and that John Gustin be the first Master, Thomas Armstrong the first Senior Warden, and Henry Bales the first Junior Warden of said Lodge.

Brother Davenport, Junior Grand Warden of this Grand Lodge, reports, that

In pursuance of the dispensation of the Most Worshipful Grand Master for that purpose granted, he did, on the sixth day of June last, instal Brother John Dunham as Master of a new Lodge proposed to be formed and holden at Port Elizabeth, in the county of Cumberland, agreeably to ancient form, &c.

Which report was agreed to by the Grand Lodge.

The following report from the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, was received:

Most Worshipful Sir and Brother:

Agreeably to your directions, I attended at the town of Orange, in the county of Essex, and having opened a Lodge of Master Masons in due form, and convening a number of brethren from St. John's, Paterson and Cincinnati Lodges, and by the authority of a warrant from the Grand Lodge, did on the 28th Dec., 5809, constitute and form them into a new Lodge, by the name and title of Union Lodge, No. 21, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, and with the assistance of the Grand Chaplain, did consecrate the room according to the most ancient forms and usages, to Masonry, virtue and universal benevolence. I would also state that I visited the above Lodge on the 7th inst., and was highly pleased with the order and regularity with which the Lodge was conducted. I found the officers generally well-informed and the members very attentive and diligent in their Work. The Talent committed to their care has not been buried, but highly improved to the benefit of the Craft.

I would also inform you that I visited St. John's, No. 2; Washington, No. 12; Cincinnati, No. 15, and Trinity, No. 20, since the last Grand Communication, and have the pleasure to state that I found them generally very attentive, tolerably well informed, and anxious to receive instruction. I communicated to them the mode of working adopted by the committee, informing them that it must receive the sanction of the

Grand Lodge to pass into a law. I would also state that the greatest harmony prevailed throughout the Lodges I visited, one only excepted, but hope the differences have not taken such deep root but the influence of the Grand Lodge will completely heal the wounds and again re-unite and cement them into one common mass of brothers.

A petition from Simon Cortright and thirteen others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted unto them to form a new Lodge, to be held at Sandyston, in the county of Sussex, to be called United Lodge, No. 23 was read; whereupon, the Grand Lodge, after due consideration,

Resolved, that the prayer of the said petition be granted, and that a warrant do issue accordingly to Brother Simon Cortright, first Master, Christopher Longstreet, Senior Warden, and Elijah Whiting, Junior Warden of said Lodge.

On motion,

Resolved, That Brothers Davenport, Dunham and Read, be appointed a committee to examine and report on the accounts of the Grand Treasurer.

The committee to whom was referred the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, report that

They have carefully examined the said accounts and vouchers and find them fairly stated, and that a balance of $556.29, including the four hundred dollars heretofore ordered to be loaned, remain in his hands.

Which report was read and agreed to.

Brother Beatty, from the committee on that subject, made the following report:

The Committee to whom was referred the representation and petition of John S. Gano and others, late members of Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10, having maturely considered the same, beg leave to report:—That in the opinion of your committee the facts in the said petition are truly stated, being fully substantiated by the testimony of a number of the brethren, some of whom were only occasional visitors, but others now are or have been members of the old and new Lodge, as will appear by the documents herewith presented. Your committee, therefore, have no hesitation in declaring that the proceedings which took place in Nova Cæsarea Lodge, in the month of December, 1805, at the time of surrendering the warrant, as highly improper and irregular, and of censuriug the conduct of the members who were active therein, not only as guilty of a violation of the rules and by-laws of their own Lodge, but as derogatory to those immemorial principles and usages which ought and do govern all Lodges who have the prosperity, union, and harmony of the Craft at heart. Under

these circumstances your committee would have cheerfully joined in recommending the warrant to be restored were they not informed that a Grand Lodge has been instituted in that State, who are competent, and, no doubt will render full redress to your petitioners in the premises, upon their representing their particular hard situation. Your committee, therefore, think it inexpedient at this time to take further notice of the application than to recommend their case to the fostering care and protection of their brethren composing the next Grand Communication in the State of Ohio, and that the Worshipful Grand Master do cause a copy of these proceedings, duly certified, to be forwarded to Brother John S. Gano, of Cincinnati, to be communicated to the other subscribing brethren to the petition.

Which report was read and agreed to.

WHEREAS, Brother A. Freeman and others, members of Washington Lodge, have preferred certain charges against the officers and divers members of the said Lodge for improper and unmasonic conduct; thereupon it is

Resolved, That Brothers the M. W. Grand Master Woodruff, Past Grand Master Beatty and Rhea, be a committee to report a statement of facts on the said charges so exhibited, and their opinion thereon, at the next Grand Communication.

Brother Alpheus Freeman and six others, all Master Masons, presented a petition to this Grand Lodge, to authorize them to form a new Lodge, at New Brunswick, in the counties of Middlesex and Somerset, by the name of Mount Moriah Lodge; whereupon, on motion, it is

Resolved, That the said petition be committed to the same committee to whom was referred the investigation of the charges exhibited against Washington Lodge, and the committee are requested to report on the propriety of granting the prayer of this petition at the next Grand Communication.

Brother presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That any member belonging to any Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, who is or shall be in arrears with said Lodge for his dues eighteen months, do pay the amount within six months after the same is presented to him, or in failure thereof a majority of the members of said Lodge, convened at the next stated meeting, be authorized to expel him thereupon.

H. S. Cozens, late a member of Salem Lodge, No. 19, having appealed from the sentence of expulsion from said Lodge; it was

Ordered, That the appeal be filed, and that Brothers Davenport, Ayres, and Pierson be a committee to report a statement of facts and their opinion at the next Grand Communication.

Resolved, That twenty dollars be appropriated to the education of John Wrighter, son of David Wrighter, Tyler to this Lodge, under the direction of the Grand Treasurer; and the further sum of twenty dollars is hereby appropriated and directed to be paid out of the funds of the Grand Lodge to the Tyler thereof.

The Grand Lodge having gone through all the business before them, proceeded to the election of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were nominated and unanimously appointed, to wit:

Aaron D. Woodruff, M. W. Grand Master.

William McKissack, R. W. Deputy Grand Master.

Thomas Bullman, R. W. Senior Grand Warden.

Franklin Davenport, R. W. Junior Grand Warden.

Jonathan Rhea, W. Grand Treasurer.

Samuel J. Read, W. Grand Secretary.

George McDonald, W. Deputy Grand Secretary.

All the Grand Officers elect (except Brothers McKissack and Bullman) being present, were duly installed according to ancient forms and ceremonies, and received the accustomed salutations of the brethren present.

Resolved, That this Lodge do now adjourn until the Wednesday after the third Tuesday in August next, to meet here again, at which Communication the returns of all the Subordinate Lodges are to be made.

The Lodge closed in good harmony.

AUGUST SESSION, 1811.

At a Special Communication of the Grand Lodge, held by adjournment at the Lodge room, Trenton, on Wednesday, the 21st of August, A. L. 5811:

PRESENT.

M. W. AARON D. WOODRUFF, Grand Master.
R. W. WILLIAM McKISSACK, Deputy Grand Master.
THOMAS BULLMAN, Senior Grand Warden.
JAMES HEDDEN, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
SAMUEL J. READ, Grand Secretary.
GEORGE McDONALD, Deputy Grand Secretary.
JONA. RHEA, Grand Treasurer.
ANDREW S. HUNTER, Grand Marshal.
ISAAC BARNES, Jr., Senior Grand Deacon.
JOS. J. THOMPSON, Junior Grand Deacon.
DAVID WRIGHTER, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form—Representatives from the following Lodges attended, viz.:

Wm. McKissack, George McDonald, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.
James Hedden, Moses Smith, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
Ellet Howell, Daniel Phillips, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
Ebenezer Davis, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
William Dunham, John Keyworth, David Smith, Washington Lodge, No. 12.
John Sexton, Federal Lodge, No. 15.
Thomas Bullman, Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.
Jeptha B. Munn, Abraham Reynolds, Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.
Samuel J. Read, Mahlon Budd, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.
Jesse Baldwin, Union Lodge, No. 21.
John Dunham, Friendship Lodge, No. 22.

Abraham Baldwin,	Montgomery Polhemus,	William Humphreys,
Peter Nestell, P. M.,	John Swift,	Ralph Lott,
Alpheus Freeman,	William Mount,	Ephraim T. Ogden.
Aaron Hazen,	William Kerwood,	

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form and proceeded to business.

The resolution laid on the table at the last Communication, for expelling a member for non-payment of dues, was called up and discussed, and thereupon

Resolved, That any member belonging to any Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, who is or shall be in arrear with said Lodge for his dues eighteen months, do pay the same within six months after the account is presented to him, or on failure thereof, a majority of the members of said Lodge, convened at the next stated meeting thereafter, be authorized to expel him therefrom.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment during pleasure.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

A petition from Brother Ephraim F. Ogden and seven others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted to form a new Lodge, to be held at Flemington, in the county of Hunterdon, to be called Hiram Lodge, No. 25, was read, whereupon the Grand Lodge, after due consideration,

Resolved, That the prayer of the petition be granted, and that a warrant do issue accordingly to first Master,
Senior Warden, and Junior Warden of said Lodge.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary subscribe for a new periodical work, entitled the Freemasons' Magazine and General Miscellany, edited by Brother Geo. Richards, of Philadelphia, for the use of the Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master do appoint such members as he may think proper, Lecturers, to visit and instruct the several Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

The committee to whom was referred the charges exhibited against the officers of Washington Lodge, and also an application for a new warrant to Brother A. Freeman and others, made report, and the same being read,

Ordered, That the first part of the report, exculpating the officers from the said charges, be adopted and filed, and the remainder be postponed.

The Lodge closed in good harmony.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1811.

At a yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge of New New Jersey, at the city of Trenton, on the 12th day of November, A. L. 5811.

PRESENT.

M. W. AARON D. WOODRUFF, Grand Master.
R. W. FRANKLIN DAVENPORT, Senior G. Warden, p. t.
JAMES HEDDEN, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
SAMUEL J. READ, Grand Secretary.
JONATHAN RHEA, Grand Treasurer.
ANDREW S. HUNTER, Grand Marshal.
ISAAC BARNES, Jr., Senior Grand Deacon.
JOS. J. THOMPSON, Junior Grand Deacon.
HENRY BELLERJEAU, Grand Sword Bearer.
DAVID WRIGHTER, Grand Tyler.

Representatives from the following Lodges, viz..

William McKissack, Henry Suydam, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.
James Hedden, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
Daniel Phillips, Williiam Humphreys, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
John Johnson, Jacob Stewart, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.
James Giles, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
Franklin Davenport, James B. Caldwell, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.
William Dunham, John Keyworth, Washington Lodge, No. 12.
John Sexton, Federal Lodge, No. 15.
No representation from Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.
No representation from Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.
Samuel J. Read, William S. Morris, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.
No representation from Salem Lodge, No. 19.
No representation from Trinity Lodge, No. 20.
Jesse Baldwin, Union Lodge, No. 21.
John Dunham, Friendship Lodge, No. 22.
John Johnson, Augusta Lodge, No. 23.
No representation from United Lodge, No. 24.
Ephraim F. Ogden, Hiram Lodge, No. 25.

Alpheus Freeman,	Thos. F. Johnson,	William Jones,
Andrew Agnew,	John Anderson,	John Linsey.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form and proceeded to business.

The committee appointed at the last yearly Communication

of this Grand Lodge, to report a statement of facts on the appeal of Henry S. Cozens from the sentence of expulsion of Salem Lodge, No. 19, reported the same, which with the several papers accompanying the report were ordered to lie on the table.

The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Brothers Hedden and Read, were appointed a committee to examine and state the accounts of the Grand Treasurer.

The Lodge was called from labor to refreshment during pleasure.

The Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

The committee to whom was referred the settlement of the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, report that

They have examined the said accounts and find correctly stated, and that a balance of $32.99 remains in the hands of the Grand Treasurer.

Which report was read and agreed to.

A petition was presented from Brother Jacob Kerr and nine others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted unto them to form a new Lodge, at the village of Hope, in the county of Sussex, to be called Hope Lodge, No. 26, was read, whereupon, the Grand Lodge, after due consideration,

Resolved, That the prayer of the petition be granted, and that a warrant do issue to Joseph J. Hendrie, first Master, Jacob Stewart, Senior Warden, and Henry Palmer, Jun., first Junior Warden of said Lodge.

A petition was presented from Brother Alpheus Freeman and six others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted unto them to form a new Lodge at New Brunswick, to be called Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 27, was read. After due consideration by the Grand Lodge on the question, shall a warrant issue? there were twelve votes in the affirmative and nine in the negative, whereupon,

Resolved, That a warrant do issue to Alpheus Freeman, first Master, John Outcalt, Senior Warden, and John Anderson, Junior Warden of said Lodge.

Resolved, That the resolutions passed at the last yearly Communication of this Grand Lodge, in favor of the Grand Tyler and his son, be continued.

The following resolutions were proposed for consideration:

Resolved, That no Past Master shall be entitled to vote on any question submitted to the decision of the Grand Lodge, or for the officers who shall preside over the same, unless such Past Master shall have actually held the chair of a warranted Lodge, on record in this State, by elective franchise.

Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master of this Grand Lodge be authorised to request of the Grand Lodges of Pennsylvania and New York not to initiate into the mysteries of Free Masonry any person residing within this State.

The Grand Lodge having gone through all other business before them, proceeded to the appointment of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were nominated and unanimously appointed, viz.:

Aaron D. Woodruff, Most Worshipful Grand Master.

William McKissack, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.

Thomas Bullman, Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden.

Franklin Davenport, Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden.

Samuel J. Read, Worshipful Grand Secretary.

George McDonald, Worshipful Deputy Grand Secretary.

Jonathan Rhea, Worshipful Grand Treasurer.

All the Grand Officers elect (except Brother Bullman) being present, were severally invested and installed according to ancient forms and ceremonies, and being duly proclaimed, received the salutations of the brethren present.

The Grand Lodge closed in good harmony.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1812.

At a yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, at the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, the 10th of November, A. L. 5812:

PRESENT.

M. W. AARON D. WOODRUFF, Grand Master.
R. W. WM. McKISSACK, Deputy Grand Master.
THOS. BULLMAN, Senior Grand Warden.
FRANKLIN DAVENPORT, Junior Grand Warden.
SAMUEL J. READ, Grand Secretary.
GEO. McDONALD, Deputy Grand Secretary.
JONATHAN RHEA, Grand Treasurer.
ANDREW S. HUNTER, Grand Marshal.
ISAAC BARNES, Jr., Senior Grand Deacon.
JOS. J. THOMPSON, Junior Grand Deacon.
DAVID WRIGHTER, Grand Tyler.

Representatives from the following Lodges attended, viz.:

No representation from Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.
Moses Smith, James Burnet, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
No representation from Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
John Johnson, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.
James Giles, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
Franklin Davenport, J. Whitall, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.
John Keyworth, Aaron Hazart, Washington Lodge, No. 12.
Abm. Godwin, Paterson Orange Lodge, No. 13.
William Elston, Farmers Lodge, No. 14.
John Sexton, Federal Lodge, No. 15.
Thos. Bullman, Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.
Jepthah B. Munn, Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.
Samuel J. Read, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.
No representation from Salem Lodge, No. 19.
R. Shannon, Trinity Lodge, No. 20.
Alexander Wilson, Union Lodge, No. 21.
No representation from Friendship Lodge, No. 22.
No representation from Augusta Lodge, No. 23.
Simon Cortright, United Lodge, No. 24.
Ephraim F. Ogden, Hiram Lodge, No. 25.
Daniel Swayze, Hope Lodge, No. 26.
Alpheus Freeman, Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 27.

E. Brickman, J. Barton, D. Burroughs,
R. C. Thomason, W. Humphreys, N. Shuff,
Jno. Lafoucherie.

The following resolution having been laid on the table at the last Grand Communication for consideration, to wit:

Resolved, That no Past Master shall be entitled to vote on any question submitted to the decision of the Grand Lodge, or for the officers who shall preside over the same, unless such Past Master shall have actually held the chair of a warranted Lodge on record of this State, by elective franchise,

Was read and adopted.

The following resolution having been laid on the table at the last Grand Communication for consideration, to wit:

Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey be authorized to request of the Grand Lodges of Pennsylvania and New York not to initiate into the mysteries of Free Masonry any person residing within this State.

Which resolution was amended by adopting the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall not initiate into the mysteries of the Craft any person of this State, or of any of the United States, or a foreigner, unless before he be so initiated, he shall satisfy said Lodge, by a test or otherwise, that he hath not at any time made application to a Lodge for admission, and been rejected or otherwise refused admission into the same; *and further resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be directed to enclose a copy of this resolution to the Grand Lodges of the States of Pennsylvania, New York and Delaware, and that in behalf of this Grand Lodge they be requested to pass similar resolutions, so far as regards persons of this State applying to be initiated under their jurisdiction.

A petition from James Burras and eleven others, more than five of whom are Master Masons. praying that a warrant may be granted to them to form a new Lodge, to be held at Morristown, to be called St. Tammany's Lodge, No. 28, was read, and after due consideration,

Ordered, That a warrant be issued, and that James Burras shall be the first Master, Stephen Halsey, Senior Warden, and Amos Nichols, Junior Warden of said Lodge.

On motion,

Ordered, That the Grand Treasurer do pay Brother Wilson for the use of Brother Kent, twelve dollars and fifty cents, out of the Charity Fund.

Resolved, That thirty dollars be paid to the Grand Secretary annually for his services, until otherwise directed by the Grand Lodge, which sum shall be paid by the Grand Treasurer on a warrant for that purpose, signed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

Resolved, That the Masters of the several Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and such other officers as may think proper to attend, do meet at the city of Trenton, on the Monday preceding the next Grand Communication, in order to adopt an uniform mode of working.

The following resolution was laid on the table for consideration:

Resolved, That it be the duty of the Grand Secretary, within one month after every annual Grand Communication of this Grand Lodge, to transmit to every Lodge within the jurisdiction of the same, a statement of its funds as reported by the committee at such annual Communication, and specifying in what manner the same is vested or funded.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following report:

The Most Worshipful Grand Master reports, that since the last Grand Communication, he, with the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master and the Worshipful Deputy Grand Secretary, installed according to the ancient usages of the Fraternity, the Master, Wardens, and other officers of Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 27, at New Brunswick.

That in the month of September last he, attended by, and with the assistance of several of the Grand Officers, did solemnly dedicate to Masonic purposes, the hall lately erected at Mount Holly by the Brethren of Lodge No. 18, agreeably to ancient form and usage, and he takes this opportunity of expressing the very great satisfaction he received on the occasion from the skill, taste and beauty displayed in the formation and decoration of the new hall, as well as from the orderly conduct of the brethren who were present at the ceremony and the entertainments of the day.

He also has visited several Lodges and is happy to report favorably. A spirit of emulation and prudence appears to prevail, which with a great accession of worthy brethren of late, furnishes pleasing evidence of the flourishing condition of the ancient and honorable Craft in our State, and induces a well-grounded hope that the members and professors of our virtuous and benevolent institution will be stimulated to greater exertions, so that they may become more perfect in this our goodly Work.

Communications have been received from the Grand Lodges of Rhode Island, Vermont, Maryland, Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, and Louisiana, and are laid before the Grand Lodge.

The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master made the following report:

Most Worshipful Brother:

Allow me to state that I have had the pleasure of visiting (since the last Grand Communication) the Lodges of Washington and Mount Moriah; that the time I visited Washington Lodge, No. 12, was their stated meeting, but happened on the evening of the day in which the Governor of the State passed through New Brunswick to the seat of government, a number of gentlemen attending His Excellency on that occasion, the Lodge was comparatively few in number, and consequently but little business was done, but what was done was gone through correctly and performed like workmen.

Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 27, called a special meeting on the occasion of my visit, and went through the three different lectures in a very correct and Masonic manner, so far as I was capable of judging, every brother performing the work assigned with cheerfulness and promptitude.

I must pronounce those Lodges, Most Worshipful, so far as I could discover from their working and Lodge entries, to be in a very flourishing state. Allow me thus publicly to acknowledge that I was treated with every mark of attention and politeness by the brethren of those Lodges as a member of this Grand Lodge.

The following letter was read:

CINCINNATI, July 1st, 1812.

DEAR SIR:—With pleasure I inform you we have our prospect brightened of bringing to a close and completing the desirable object of a reconciliation of the members of old Nova Cæsarea Lodge and the Cincinnati Lodge. The Grand Lodge, at their last Grand Communication, took up the business, and conducted it to the satisfaction of all concerned. They directed the charter from Kentucky returned, which I have done, as one of the committee, with my own hands, and they have complied with the requisition enjoined on them. I have inserted herein an extract of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the State of Ohio, respecting that business, so that if the Grand Secretary should have omitted to send a copy to your Grand Lodge, you may see what has been done. We now have to solicit your further aid in having the old warrant forwarded here or to the Grand Lodge of this State; and any demands that the Grand Lodge may claim from the few members remaining here I will become accountable for, and have remitted to you. Brother, you will see we have persevered, and until this time could not make any communication to

you, in answer to your very acceptable letter, which will, I presume, be a sufficient apology. Your attention and further aid will lay us under additional obligations, as your Grand Lodge sits in August. I have heartily wrote you on the subject, and will write again, if I think it will reach you before the Grand Communication of your Lodge.

Yours fraternally,

JOHN S. GANO.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Ohio.

CHILICOTHE, January 6th, A. D. 1812, A. L. 5812.

Proceeded to business, &c. On Wednesday, January 8th, William R. Goodwin, W. M., representative of the Cincinnati Lodge, presented documents relative to the proceedings of the late Lodge of Nova Cæsarea and the Lodge of Cincinnati, and the conduct of the brethren of said Lodge, and soliciting the meditation of this Grand Lodge.

The same were read, and a further consideration thereof deferred until to-morrow evening.

THURSDAY EVENING, January 9th, A. L. 5812.

On consideration of the documents relative to the Lodges of Nova Cæsarea and Cincinnati,

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge recommend to the Cincinnati Lodge to pay up their dues to the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, and have leave to withdraw their charter from this Grand Lodge, and return the same to the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, and that they inform the Grand Lodge of New Jersey of the step thus taken, requesting them to return their original charter, with our assurances that they will pay all regular dues; further, that the said Lodge of Cincinnati be hereafter known and called by the name of the Cæsarean Lodge, and by that name represented in this Lodge; and on complying with the above, the said Lodge shall be entitled to a charter from this Grand Lodge, and not otherwise.

Resolved, also, That the M. W. G. Master communicate the result of the proceedings of this Lodge, on the subject matter of this resolution, to the Grand Lodges of New Jersey and Kentucky, and request their approbation and concurrence.

The Grand Lodge having gone through with all the other business before them, proceeded to the appointment of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were nominated and unanimously appointed, viz.:

Aaron D. Woodruff, Most Worshipful Grand Master.
Wm. McKissack, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.
Thomas Bullman, Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden.
Franklin Davenport, Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden.
Andrew S. Hunter, Worshipful Grand Secretary.
George McDonald, Worshipful Deputy Grand Secretary.
Jonathan Rhea, Worshipful Grand Treasurer.

All the Grand Officers elect being present, were severally invested and installed according to ancient forms and ceremonies, and being duly proclaimed, received the accustomed salutations of the brethren present.

The Grand Lodge closed in good harmony, to meet again on the second Tuesday of November next.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1813.

At a yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, at the city of Trenton, on the 9th day of November, A. L. 5813.

PRESENT.

M. W. AARON D. WOODRUFF, Grand Master.
R. W. WM. McKISSACK, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. THOMAS BULLMAN, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. FRANKLIN DAVENPORT, Junior Grand Warden.
W. JONATHAN RHEA, Grand Treasurer.
W. ANDREW S. HUNTER, Grand Secretary.
W. GEO. McDONALD, Deputy Grand Secretary.
W. ISAAC BARNES, Jr., Senior Grand Deacon.
W. RICHARD L. BEATTY, Junior Grand Deacon.
DAVID WRIGHTER, Grand Tyler.

Representatives from the following Lodges attended, viz:

Wm. McKissack, Geo. McDonald, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.
Thos. T. Kinney, James W. Burnet, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
A. D. Woodruff, Jonathan Rhea, Ellet Howell, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
Peter B. Shaffer, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.

James Giles, Edo Ogden, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
Franklin Davenport, Joshua L. Howell, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.
Thomas P. Johnson, John Lindsey, Washington Lodge, No. 11.
No representation from Paterson Orange Lodge, No. 13.
No representation from Farmers' Lodge, No. 14.
John Sexton, Joseph Palmer, Federal Lodge, No. 15.
Thos. Bullman, Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.
John S. Darcy, Abraham Reynolds, Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.
Samuel J. Reed, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.
Wm. Lambert, Peter Bilderback, Salem Lodge, No. 19.
No representation from Trinity Lodge, No. 20.
Jeptha Baldwin, Union Lodge, 21.
John Dunham, Friendship Lodge, No. 22.
Thos. Armstrong, Augusta Lodge, No. 23.
No representation from Unity Lodge, No. 24.
Ephraim F. Ogden, Hiram Lodge, No. 25.
Daniel Swayze, Hope Lodge, No. 26.
Alpheus Freeman, Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 27.
No representation from St. Tammany Lodge, No. 28.
Past Grand Master—Beatty.
Visiting Brethren—Brothers George Wood and Craven.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form and proceeded to business.

The following resolution, which was laid on the table at the last Grand Communication, viz:

Resolved, That it be the duty of the Grand Secretary, within one month after every annual Convocation of this Grand Lodge, to transmit to every Lodge within the jurisdiction of the same, a statement of its funds as reported by the committee at such annual Communication, and specifying in what manner the same is vested or funded,

was read and adopted.

The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, made the following communication, which was read and ordered to be filed:

Most Worshipful Sir and Brother:

Agreeably to your directions, I attended at Morristown, and under the sanction of a warrant granted by this Grand Lodge to a number of Master Masons in that neighborhood, and with the assistance of a number of brethren from the Lodges of Solomon, St. John, Cincinnati and Paterson Orange, did open a Master Masons Lodge in due form, and with the assistance of the Deputy Grand Secretary of New Jersey and the Grand Chaplain of New York, did form the brethren mentioned in the warrant, into a new Lodge, (and regularly constituted the same, according to the

most ancient forms and customs) by the name and title of St. Tammany's Lodge, No. 28, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey —then proceeded to install the several officers of the new Lodge in their different stations in the Lodge, presenting each with the insignia or badge of his office, giving each a charge and binding them to their trust, according to the most ancient usages—then formed a procession (and walked to the church in Morristown) to the number, nearly, of one hundred, where an excellent and appropriate address was delivered by the Grand Chaplain of New York, explanatory of the rise and progress of Masonry, to a very crowded audience, said to be three thousand, who behaved with the greatest order and decorum. A number of the gentlemen of the town and neighborhood, waited on the Lodge after dinner and expressed their full satisfaction and approbation of the proceedings of the day, which had completely removed their former prepossessions derogatory to the good order of the Craft.

I have been thus particular, Most Worshipful, as Masonry had lost its energy and usefulness in that neighborhood, owing to the imprudence of the Lodge formerly established in that place.

I would further state, Most Worshipful Brother, that I visited (since the last Grand Communication) the Lodges of Washington and Mount Moriah. The former did not do any business the evening I visited, owing (as I was informed) to the indisposition and consequently to the absence of the Master, but on examination of their Lodge books, I observed that the business of the Lodge was regularly conducted. The latter I found better prepared, the officers being present and the brethren generally, answering with correctness and promptitude to the different questions proposed from the chair.

A petition was presented from Wm. Hampton and six others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted unto them to form a Lodge at Hackettstown, in the county of Sussex, to be called Independence Lodge, No. 29, was read, whereupon after due consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue to William Hampton, Master, D. McGregor, Senior Warden, and Benajah Gustin, Junior Warden of said Lodge.

A petition was presented from Thomas P. Johnson and four others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted unto them to form a new Lodge at Princeton, to be called Princeton Lodge, No. 30, was read, whereupon after due consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue to Thomas P. Johnson, Master, Percy Rowley, Senior Warden, John Lindsay, Junior Warden of said Lodge.

Brothers Davenport, Armstrong and Baldwin, were appointed a committee to settle and state the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, and report thereon.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment during pleasure.

The Grand Lodge was again called from refreshment to labor.

The committee appointed to settle the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, reported that

They have examined the accounts together with the vouchers, and find a balance in his hands in favor of the Grand Lodge of two hundred and twenty dollars and twenty-one cents.

Which report was read and agreed to.

The following resolution was read and agreed to:

Resolved, That twenty dollars be paid by the Grand Treasurer to the Grand Tyler, out of the funds of the Grand Lodge, and also four dollars for attendance on the Grand Lodge at this Communication; *and further resolved,* that the allowance for some time made for the clothing and schooling of the son of the Grand Tyler, be continued for the ensuing year.

Brother Baldwin presented the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to enquire into the conduct of the officers and brethren of Paterson Lodge, No. 13, as to the initiation of persons refused admission into other Lodges, and report the same to the next Grand Communication.

Which resolution was read and agreed to, and Brothers Andruss, Thos. T. Kinney, and Jepthah B. Munn, appointed the committee.

Brother Johnson presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master divide the State into districts, and appoint in each district a Grand Lecturer, whose duty it shall be to visit the several Lodges in their respective districts, at the expense of those Lodges; and that in order to establish an uniform

system of working, it shall be the duty of the Grand Lecturers to attend the Grand Master and the Deputy Grand Master, at such times and places as the said Grand Master may direct, and there confer together and agree upon an uniform mode of working; and they are carefully to instruct the brethren of their respective districts in the method agreed upon, and that their expenses shall be borne by the Lodges in their respective districts.

Which resolution was read and ordered to lie on the table.

Brother Giles presented the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That the annual Communication of this Grand Lodge be hereafter held at the city of Trenton, on the Monday preceding the second Tuesday in November.

Which resolution was read and ordered to lie on the table.

The following resolution was presented by Brother — —:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to procure a jewel for the Deputy Grand Secretary, and also that they procure a jewel and appropriate clothing for a Past Grand Master.

Which resolution was read and agreed to, and Brothers Giles, Davenport and Rhea, appointed.

The Grand Lodge having gone through all the other business before them, proceeded to the appointment of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were nominated, and unanimously appointed, viz.:

Aaron D. Woodruff, Most Worshipful Grand Master.
Wm. McKissack, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.
Thos. Bullman, Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden.
Franklin Davenport, Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden.
Andrew J. Hunter, Worshipful Grand Secretary.
George McDonald, Deputy Grand Secretary.
Jonathan Rhea, Worshipful Grand Treasurer.

All the Grand Officers being present, were severally invested and installed according to ancient forms and ceremonies, and being duly proclaimed, received the accustomed salutations of the brethren present.

The Grand Lodge then closed in good harmony.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1814.

At a yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, at the city of Trenton, on the 10th day of November, A. D. 1814, A. L. 5814.

PRESENT.

M. W. AARON D. WOODRUFF, Grand Master.
R. W. WILLIAM McKISSACK, Deputy Grand Master.
THOMAS BULLMAN, Senior Grand Warden.
FRANKLIN DAVENPORT, Junior Grand Warden.
RICHARD L. BEATTY, Grand Secretary, p. t.
GEORGE McDONALD, Deputy Grand Secretary.
ISAAC BARNES, Jr., Senior Grand Deacon.
Wm. HUMPHREYS, Junior Grand Deacon.
DAVID WRIGHTER, Grand Tyler.

Representatives from the following Lodges attended, viz.:

Wm. McKissack, George McDonald, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.
No representation from St. John's Lodge, No· 2.
Aaron D. Woodruff, Isaac Barnes, Jr.. Richard L. Beatty, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
Peter B. Shaffer, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.
William R. Fithian, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
Franklin Davenport, James B. Caldwell, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.
No representation from Washington Lodge, No. 12.
No representation from Paterson Lodge, No, 13.
No representation from Farmers Lodge, No. 14.
Joseph Palmer, James Sutphin, Federal Lodge, No. 15.
No representation from Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.
Samuel J. Read, Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.
Samuel J. Read, Mathew McHenry, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.
Richard Craven, Salem Lodge, No. 19.
No representation from Trinity Lodge, No. 20.
No representation from Union Lodge, No. 21.
John Dunham, Friendship Lodge, No. 22.
No representation from Augusta Lodge, No. 23.
No representation from United Lodge, No. 24.
Thomas Gordon, Hiram Lodge, No. 25.
Benjamin T. Hunt, Hope Lodge, No. 26.
Andrew Agnew, Samuel Munday, Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 27.
Philemon Dickerson, St. Tammany Lodge, No. 28.

No representation from Independence Lodge, No. 29.

Thomas Johnson, Perez Rowley, John Craig, Princeton Lodge, No 30,

Anthony Reckless, Thomas Grant, Robert C. Thompson,
Philip F. Howell, Caleb Dusenbury.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, and proceeded to business.

On motion of Brother Johnson, Master of Princeton Lodge,

Resolved, That Princeton Lodge, No. 30, be exonerated from paying to the Grand Lodge the fees of initiation of Barnard McCafferty, Tyler of said Lodge.

Ordered, That Brothers Agnew, Read, and Caldwell, be a committee to settle the accounts of the Grand Treasurer.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following report:

That he has received communications from the Grand Lodges of New Hampshire, Vermont, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Ohio. From the communication of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, it appears that a Grand Lodge of the State of Tennessee has been constituted. Those of South Carolina enclose certain proceedings of the two Grand Lodges of England, whereby an union has been effected between those two Grand Lodges, under the style and title of the "United Grand Lodge of Ancient Freemasons in England."

The Grand Master also reports, that he has since the last Grand Communication, visited several of the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and has great pleasure in observing that he was highly gratified with the attention paid him and with the zeal which was displayed by the officers and brethren while at labor, as also the morality, brotherly love and benevolence which appeared to govern them when called to refreshment.

He also reports, that with some of the Grand Officers he attended at the installation of the officers of Princeton Lodge, No. 30, and the consecration of the hall, and he has the highest satisfaction in affording his testimony of the ability, good order and harmony which was evinced on the occasion, giving the happiest presages of their becoming bright, intelligent and worthy Masons. He was received with every mark of respect and attention.

The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master made the following report:

Most Worshipful Sir and Brother:

Agreeably to your directions, I repaired to the village of Hackettstown,

in the county of Sussex, and with a number of the brethren convened on the occasion, did proceed to open a Master Masons Lodge in one form, and by the authority of a warrant from this Grand Lodge, did constitute and form a new Lodge in Hackettstown aforesaid, by the name of Independence Lodge, No. 29, under the jurisdiction of and owing allegiance to the Grand Lodge of New Jersey; and did regularly install the officers mentioned in the warrant, in their different stations, investing them with the badge of office, giving each a charge, and binding them to their trust according to the most ancient forms and usages. We also walked in procession to the church in Hackettstown, where an excellent and appropriate discourse was delivered by the Rev. Brother Campbell. I would also state that I visited Mount Moriah Lodge, No, 27, in the city of New Brunswick, since the last Grand Communication, and found them bright and well-informed, every brother performing the Work assigned him with alacrity and cheerfulness. I also visited Washington Lodge, No. 12, but by mistake in the night the Lodge did not convene. I would further state that I had the pleasure of visiting the new Lodge at Princeton, under the guidance of the Worshipful Thos. P. Johnson, and was highly gratified with the manner in which the business of the Lodge was conducted. The Worshipful Master gave a lecture at my request; it was done in a true Masonic style and embellished by the hand of a Master.

Which report was read and ordered to be filed.

A petition was presented by Brother Caleb Dusenbury and eleven others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted unto them to form a new Lodge, in the township of Mansfield, in the county of Sussex, to be called Mansfield Lodge, No. 31, was read; whereupon, after due consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue to Caleb Dusenbury, first Master, Robert C. Thompson, Senior Warden, and Adam Runkle, Junior Warden of said Lodge.

A petition was presented from Brother P. G. Kendall, praying that a warrant may be granted unto them to form a new Lodge, to be held at Sharptown, in county of Salem, to be called Sharptown Lodge, No. 32, was read; whereupon, after due consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue to Peter Bilderbach, first Master, Zaccheus Ray, Senior Warden, and Josiah Shull, Junior Warden of said Lodge.

A petition was presented from Brother Ichabod Burnet and seven others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may

be granted unto them to form a new Lodge, in the township of Chatham, in the county of Morris, to be called Chatham Lodge, No. 33, which was read; whereupon, after due consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue to Jepthah B. Munn, first Master, Rueben Bishop, Senior Warden, and David Miller, Junior Warden of said Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment during pleasure.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

Brother Agnew, from the committee appointed on the subject, reported that

They have examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, and find them correctly stated, and that there remains in his hands, due the Grand Lodge, three hundred and four dollars and sixty-nine cents.

Which report was read and agreed to.

The following resolution which was laid on the table at the last Communication, was adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master divide the State into districts, and appoint in each district a Grand Lecturer, whose duty it shall be to visit the several Lodges in their respective districts, at the expense of those Lodges, and that in order to establish an uniform mode of working it shall be the duty of the Grand Lecturers to attend the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master, at such times and places as the said Grand Master may direct, and there confer together and agree upon an uniform mode of working, and they are carefully to instruct the brethren of their respective districts in the method agreed upon, and that their expenses shall be paid by the Lodges of their respective districts.

The following resolution, which was laid on the table at the last Communication was read, and ordered to be postponed unto the next Grand Communication, viz.:

Resolved, That the annual Communications of this Grand Lodge be hereafter held in the city of Trenton, on the Monday preceding the second Tuesday in November.

The committee appointed at the last Communication to procure a jewel and clothing for the Deputy Grand Secretary and

a Past Grand Master, not being ready to report, were ordered to be continued.

The committee appointed at the last Communication to enquire into the conduct of the officers and brethren of Paterson Lodge, not being ready to report, were ordered to be continued.

On motion of Brother Thomas P. Johnson, the following resolution was read and agreed to:

Resolved, That a committee be now appointed to revise the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Lodge, and report such new regulations at the next annual Communication as they may think necessary.

And the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, and Brother Thomas P. Johnson, were appointed a committee for that purpose.

On motion,

Ordered, That the same allowance be made in favor of the Grand Tyler and his son as was ordered at the last Communication.

On motion,

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary have four reams of blank returns printed, and have them forwarded to the several Lodges; also, that he have printed two quires of blank receipts for the Grand Treasurer; and the Grand Treasurer is directed to pay the expense thereof out of the funds of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge having gone through all the other business before them, proceeded to the appointment of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were nominated and unanimously appointed, viz.:

Aaron D. Woodruff, Most Worshipful Grand Master.
William McKissack, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.
Thomas Bullman, Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden.
Franklin Davenport, Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden.
Richard L. Beatty, Worshipful Grand Secretary.
George McDonald, Worshipful Deputy Grand Secretary.
Isaac Barnes, Jr., Worshipful Grand Treasurer.

All the Grand Officers elect being present, were severally invested and installed, according to ancient forms and ceremonies, and being duly proclaimed, received the accustomed salutations of the brethren present.

The Grand Lodge closed in good harmony.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1815.

At a yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, at the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, the 14th of November, 5815.

PRESENT.

M. W. A. D. WOODRUFF, Grand Master.
R. W. WM. McKISSACK, Deputy Grand Master.
FRANKLIN DAVENPORT, Senior G. Warden, p. t.
JAMES GILES, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
GEORGE McDONALD, Deputy Grand Secretary.
ISAAC BARNES, JR., Grand Treasurer.
WM. HUMPHREYS, Senior Grand Deacon.
THOMAS L. WOODRUFF, Junior Grand Deacon.
DAVID WRIGHTER, Grand Tyler.

Representatives from the following Lodges attended, viz.:

William McKissack, George McDonald, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.
James M. Burnett, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
Daniel Phillips, Philip F. Howell, Ellet Tucker, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
No representation from Harmony Lodge, No. 8.
James Giles, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
Franklin Davenport, Joshua L. Howell, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.
No representation from Washington Lodge, No. 12.
Benjamin Weller, Paterson Lodge, No. 13.
Robert Killgrove, Farmers Lodge, No. 14.
John Saxton, Joseph Palmer, Federal Lodge, No. 15.
No representation from Olive Branch Lodge, No, 16.
James W. Burnett, Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.
Mahlon Budd, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.
Richard Craven, Stacey Lloyd, Salem Lodge, No. 19.
No representation from Trinity Lodge, No. 20.
Jeptha Baldwin, Union Lodge, No. 21.
No representation from Friendship Lodge, No. 22.
No representation from Augusta Lodge, No. 23.
No representation from United Lodge, No. 24.
William Maxwell, Hiram Lodge, No. 25.
Daniel Swayzey, Hope Lodge, No. 26.
Samuel Mundy, Joseph Eastburn, Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 27.
No representation from St. Tammany Lodge, No. 28.
Wm. Hampton, Independence Lodge, No. 29.
Thomas P. Johnston, Nath. H. Olden, George Wood, Princeton Lodge, No. 30.

Robert C. Thompson, Mansfield Lodge, No. 31.
Peter Bilderback, Sharp Town Lodge, No. 32.
James W. Burnett, Chatham Lodge, No. 33.

John P. Lewis,	John Mershon,	Thomas Dilts,
Jonathan Morris,	Wm. Mount,	Chas. Burroughs,
Joseph Baylis,	Jacob Kerr,	Wm. McKnight,

— McCullough.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form and proceeded to business.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following report, viz.:

That owing to the indisposition of his family and his own, he had not been enabled to visit as many Lodges as he had intended; those with whom he had the pleasure to meet, appeared desirous of promoting the best interests of the institution. An application had been made to him since the last Communication for a dispensation to be granted to a competent number of brothers to congregate and open a Lodge in the township of Shrewsbury, in the county of Monmouth, preparatory to their application to the Grand Lodge for a warrant of constitution.

The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master made the following report:

Most Worshipful Sir:

Allow me to report that I visited, since the last Grand Communication, Washington and Mount Moriah Lodges, in the city of New Brunswick, and Independence Lodge, in the village of Hackettstown, in the county of Sussex.

The first, viz: Washington Lodge, did not convene, owing to its being a day of parade of the City Militia, as by appointment of their officers. The second, Mount Moriah, conducted the business in a very orderly manner, their Lodge entries appearing to be very correctly made.

Independence Lodge, at Hackettstown, I found to be *duly prepared*, every Brother performing the work assigned to him with cheerfulness, and scrupulously tenacious of observing their own bye-laws, as well as the rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge.

I would further beg leave to report, Most Worshipful, that with the assistance of a number of brethren of the surrounding Lodges, I did constitute a new Lodge, at Bottle Hill, in the county of Morris, by the name and title of Chatham Lodge, No. 33, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, installing the officers in their several stations, and investing each with the insignia or badge of office, and did solemnly consecrate the new hall erected for the accommodation of the Lodge, according to the most ancient forms and usages.

Brother Davenport made the following report:

The Junior Grand Warden respectfully reports, that in pursuance of written instructions under the hand and private seal of the Most Worshipful Aaron D. Woodruff, Grand Master, he attended at Sharptown, in the county of Salem, where, assisted by a number of the brethren from Brearley Lodge, No. 9, Friendship Lodge, No. 22, and Salem Lodge, No. 19, and Woodbury Lodge, No. 11, but particularly and specially by the Worshipful Master of Brearley Lodge, No. 9, he proceeded to the consecration of the new hall and to the installation of the officers of the new Lodge, denominated Sharptown Lodge, No. 32, in due form, and it is with pleasing satisfaction the Junior Grand Warden states the order and regularity and decorum observed by the officers and all the brethren, and their engagements to conform to those excellent charges, rules and regulations, established by the Grand Lodge of New Jersey.

The appeal of Brother John Garretson from the sentence of expulsion passed against him in Friendship Lodge, No. 22, was presented to the Grand Lodge, and it appearing that due notice had been given to Friendship Lodge of taking said appeal, and it further appearing to the Grand Lodge that the said Lodge do not attend to support the charges against Brother Garretson, therefore,

Resolved, That Brother Garretson be restored to the benefits of Masonry.

Ordered, That Brothers Junior Grand Warden, Deputy Grand Secretary and Thompson, be a committee to settle the accounts of the Grand Treasurer.

The Junior Grand Warden, from the committee appointed on that subject, reported that

They have examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and find them correctly stated, and that there remains in his hands, due the Grand Lodge, five hundred and twenty-one dollars and sixty-two cents.

Which report was read and agreed to.

A petition was presented and read from Brother John P. Lewis and eight others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted unto them to form a new Lodge in the township of Shrewsbury and county of Monmouth, to be called Shrewsbury Washington Lodge, No. 34; whereupon, after due consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue and that John P. Lewis be the first Master, Jonathan Morris the first Senior Warden, and Alexander McGregor the first Junior Warden of said Lodge.

A petition was presented and read from Brother William Mount and eleven others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted unto them to form a new Lodge in Cranberry, in the county of Middlesex; whereupon, after due consideration had, the petition was rejected.

A petition was presented and read from Brother Ephraim Bateman and eleven others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted unto them to form a new Lodge at Cedarville, in the county of Cumberland, to be called Cedarville Lodge, No. 35; whereupon, after due consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue, and that James D. Westcott be the first Master, Ephraim Bateman first Senior Warden and Richard Mulford first Junior Warden of said Lodge.

A petition was presented and read from Brother David Johnston and eleven others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted unto them to form a new Lodge in the county of Cape May to be called Dennis Creek Lodge, No. 36; whereupon, after due consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue, and that David Johnston be the first Master, Daniel Garretson, Senior Warden and Nathaniel H. Price, Junior Warden of said Lodge.

A petition was presented from Brother William Watson and eight others, Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted to them to form a new Lodge in the town of Millville, in the county of Cumberland, to be called Franklin Lodge, No. 37, which was read; whereupon, on due consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue, and that William Watson be the first Master, Nathaniel Salmon, first Senior Warden and James Devereaux, first Junior Warden of said Lodge.

Brother Kerr, of Hope Lodge, No. 26, presented a complaint against certain proceedings of said Lodge, wherein they had charged him with certain crimes. But it appearing to the Grand Lodge that no judgment had passed against him in said Hope Lodge,

Ordered, That the complaint and representation be dismissed.

A representation was presented from Washington Lodge, No. 12, praying to be indulged for one year to pay their dues to the Grand Lodge; whereupon,

Ordered, That their request be granted.

The following resolution was read and agreed to:

Resolved, That all dues and demands of whatsoever nature or kind, which may be owing from Nova Cæsarea Lodge, No. 10, in the state of Ohio, while working under the jurisdiction and charter of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, shall and the same hereby are appropriated to the sole benefit of our unfortunate brother, Capt. Burrowes Smith, late of this state but now residing in the state of Ohio aforesaid. And he is hereby authorized and empowered, on behalf of this Grand Lodge, to call for and require all such dues as are in arrear, to be paid forward to him, in whosesoever hands they may be retained; and this Grand Communication do further declare that the receipt of him, the said Burrowes Smith, shall operate as a full release for so much as shall be thus received on the part of this Grand Lodge.

The resolution which was postponed at the last annual Communication, relative to changing the time of the meeting of the Grand Lodge, was read; whereupon,

Ordered, That Brother Giles have leave to withdraw the said resolution.

The committee appointed at the last Communication to procure a jewel for the Deputy Grand Secretary and jewel and clothing for a Past Grand Master, not being ready to report, were

Ordered to be continued.

The committee appointed at the last Communication to enquire into the conduct of the officers of Paterson Lodge, were discharged.

The committee appointed at the last Communication to revise the rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge, not being ready to report, were

Ordered to be continued.

Ordered, That the same allowance in favor of the Grand Tyler and his son, be made this year as was ordered at the last Communication.

A petition from Chatham Lodge, asking for assistance to finish and decorate their Lodge-room, was read.

Ordered, That the petition be dismissed.

The Grand Lodge having gone thro' all the other business before them, proceeded to the appointment of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were nominated and unanimously appointed, viz:

Aaron D. Woodruff, Most Worshipful Grand Master.

William McKissack, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.

Franklin Davenport, Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden.

James Giles, Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden.

Richard L. Beatty, Worshipful Grand Secretary.

George McDonald, Worshipful Deputy Grand Secretary.

Isaac Barnes, Jr., Worshipful Grand Treasurer.

All the Grand Officers elect (except the Grand Secretary) being present, were severally invested and installed, and Brother Beatty as Grand Secretary by proxy, according to the ancient forms and ceremonies, and being duly proclaimed, received the accustomed salutations of the brethren present.

The Grand Lodge closed in good harmony, &c.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1816.

At a yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, held at the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, November 12th, A. L. 5816.

PRESENT.

M. W. AARON D. WOODRUFF, Grand Master.

R. W. WILLIAM McKISSACK, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. FRANKLIN DAVENPORT, Senior G. Warden, p. t.

R. W. ISAAC ANDRUSS, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.

RICHARD L. BEATTY, Grand Secretary.

GEORGE McDONALD, Deputy Grand Secretary.

ISAAC BARNES, Jr., Grand Treasurer.

WILLIAM HUMPHREYS, Senior Grand Deacon.

JOSEPH I. THOMPSON, Junior Grand Deacon.

THOMAS L. WOODRUFF, Grand Marshal.

DAVID WRIGHTER, Grand Tyler.

Representatives from the following Lodges attended, viz:

William McKissack, George McDonald, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.

Isaac Andruss, Moses Smith, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

Daniel Phillips, Philip F. Howell, Charles Burroughs, Thomas Grant, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

William R. Fithian, Josiah Parvin, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

Franklin Davenport, Daniel Cooper, James B. Caldwell, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.

David Blackwell, John Sexton, Federal Lodge, No. 15.

John S. Darcy, Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.

Samuel J. Reed, Mahlon Budd, Charles F. Lott, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.

William N. Jeffers, Salem Lodge, No. 19.

Stephen D. Day, Daniel Beirt, Union Lodge, No. 21.

John Lanning, Friendship Lodge, No. 22.

John Gustin, William Tuthel, Augusta Lodge, No. 23.

Alex. Bonnell, William Maxwell, Hiram Lodge, No. 25.

Daniel Swayze, Hope Lodge, No. 26.

Lewis Deare, Joseph Dilkes, Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 27.

John Scott, St. Tammany Lodge, No. 28.

Thomas P. Johnson, Percy Rowley, Ezekiel Smith, Princeton Lodge, No. 30.

John P. Robeson, Mansfield Lodge, No. 31.

Richard G. Kendall, Sharptown Lodge, No. 32.

John P. Lewis, Shrewsbury Washington Lodge, No. 34.

Richard Mulford, Cedarville Lodge, No. 35.

VISITING BRETHREN.

PAST GRAND MASTERS—John Beatty, ——Teixea, of Spain.

John Lafauchere, Reuben D. Tucker, John Beatty, Jr., Samuel S. Clayton, Trenton Lodge.

Joseph Palmer, Federal Lodge.

John Ellwell, Brearley Lodge.

——Donlewy, Jacob Kerr, Hope Lodge.

Nathaniel H. Olden, Princeton Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form and proceeded to business.

The committee appointed to revise the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Lodge, not being ready to report, were

Ordered to be continued.

The committee appointed to procure a jewel and clothing for a Past Grand Master and a jewel for the Deputy Grand Secretary, reported

That they had procured the jewel for the Deputy Grand Secretary, and were continued so far as regards the jewel and clothing of a Past Grand Master.

A communication was received and read from Brother Johnson, Master of Harmony Lodge, No. 8, praying for reasons therein set forth, to surrender the warrant of said Lodge.

Ordered, That the surrender of the warrant be accepted.

Most Worshipful Brother Giles, Junior Grand Warden, made the following report, viz:

The Junior Grand Warden most respectfully reports that at the last anniversary of the festival of St. John the Evangelist, at the hall of Brearley Lodge, No. 9, and in pursuance of written instructions under the hand and seal of the Most Worshipful Aaron D. Woodruff, Grand Master, he installed the Master, Senior and Junior Wardens of the new Lodge, called "Franklin Lodge, No. 37." That on Saturday, the sixth day of January last, he attended at Dennis Creek, in the county of Cape May, where, assisted by Brother Josiah Parvin, Junior Warden of Brearley Lodge, he proceeded to the installation of the officers of the new Lodge, No. 36. It had been expected that a number of brethren belonging to the adjoining Lodges would have attended this installation, but a violent snow storm having occurred on the previous day, the roads were rendered impassible, and he was consequently deprived of their assistance. That on the fourteenth day of October last, he attended at Cedarville, in the county of Cumberland, where, assisted by a number of the brethren of Brearley Lodge, Friendship Lodge, No. 22, Franklin Lodge, No. 37, and especially by his most respected and Reverend Brother Holmes Parvin, Chaplain to Brearley Lodge, he proceeded to the consecration of the new Lodge, called Cedarville Lodge, No. 35, and to the installation of its officers in due form, according to the ancient forms and usages of the Craft; and he has great satisfaction in affording his testimony to the good order and harmony which prevailed on the solemn occasion.

Which report was read and ordered to be filed.

A petition was presented from Brother Jacob Steinger and fifteen others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted to them to form a new Lodge, at Pittstown, in the county of Salem, to be called Pittstown Lodge, No. 38, which petition was read; whereupon, on due consideration, it was

Ordered That a warrant do issue, and that Brother Jacob Steinger be the first Master, Brother John Elwell, Senior Warden, and Brother John Mayhew, Junior Warden of said Lodge.

Ordered, That the place of holding Princeton Lodge, No. 30, be changed so as to extend to holding said Lodge in any part of the county of Middlesex.

Brothers Read, McDonald and M. Smith, were appointed to settle the accounts of the Grand Treasurer.

Brother Read, from the committee appointed on the subject, reported:

That they had examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, and find them correctly stated, and there remains in his hands due the Grand Lodge, four hundred and fifty-four dollars and seventy-three cents.

Which report was read and agreed to.

Ordered, That the same allowance in favor of the Grand Tyler and his son be made this year as was made at the last Communication.

Brother Darcy, of Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17, made application for a donation from the Charity Fund, in favor of the orphan children of Brother Bentley, deceased.

Ordered, That the sum of fifty dollars be appropriated, and paid into the hands of Brother Darcy and Brother Scott, of St. Tammany's Lodge, to be by them appropriated for the use of said children, at their discretion.

Brother Jacob Kerr presented an appeal from a sentence of expulsion passed against him by Hope Lodge, No. 21, which appeal was read, together with some documents accompanying it; it appearing to the Grand Lodge that notice of the taking said appeal had been served upon Hope Lodge.

The Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, and after some time elapsed were again called to labor.

The further consideration of Brother Kerr's appeal was postponed, when on motion, it was

Ordered, That Brothers McKissack, Andruss and Baldwin, be a committee to investigate the charges filed by Hope Lodge against Brother Kerr, and that they take the same into consideration, as also such proofs or documents in justification of the charges against him, and report their proceedings to the next annual Communication. The committee to meet at Hope, giving due notice to the officers of Hope Lodge, as also to Brother Kerr, of the time.

A petition was presented from Brother James Bell, praying for a donation of fifty dollars from the Charity Fund; which petition was read and ordered to lie on the table.

The Grand Lodge having gone through all the other business before them, proceeded to the appointment of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were appointed, viz.:

Aaron D. Woodruff, Most Worshipful Grand Master.
William McKissack, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.
Franklin Davenport, Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden.
James Giles, Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden.
Richard L. Beatty, Worshipful Grand Secretary.
George McDonald, Worshipful Deputy Grand Secretary.
Isaac Barnes, Jr., Worshipful Grand Treasurer.

All the Grand Officers elect (except the Junior Grand Warden) being severally invested and installed, and Brother Giles as Junior Grand Warden, by proxy, according to ancient forms and ceremonies, and being duly proclaimed, received the accustomed salutations of the brethren present.

The Grand Lodge closed in good harmony.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1817.

At a yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, at the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, the 11th day of November, 5817,

PRESENT.

M. W. WILLIAM McKISSACK, Grand Master, p. t.
R. W. FRANKLIN DAVENPORT, Deputy G. Master, p. t.
JAMES GILES, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
ISAAC ANDRUSS, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
RICHARD L. BEATTY, Grand Secretary.
GEORGE McDONALD, Deputy Grand Secretary.
ISAAC BARNES, Jr,, Grand Treasurer.
JOHN MERSHON, Grand Marshal.
JOS. I. THOMPSON, Senior Grand Deacon.
CHARLES BURROUGHS, Junior Grand Deacon.
DAVID WRIGHTER, Grand Tyler.

Representatives from the following Lodges attended, viz.:

Lyman Waldbridge, Peter Vandoren, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.

James W. Burnett, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

Daniel Phillips, Reuben D. Tucker, Thomas L. Woodruff, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

William R. Fithian, Josiah Parvin, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

Franklin Davenport, James B. Caldwell, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.

Philemon Dickerson, Paterson Lodge, No. 13.

Thomas Bullman, Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.

Abm. Reynolds, Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.

John Beatty, Jr., Charles F. Lott, Mahlon Budd, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.

Hedge Thompson, Wm. N. Jeffers, Salem Lodge, No. 19.

Jepthah Baldwin, Stephen D. Day, Union Lodge, No. 21.

Cornelius Dubois, Friendship Lodge, No. 22.

Thomas Gordon, D. P. Shrope, Hiram Lodge, No. 25.

Daniel Swayze, Isaac B. Smith, Gideon Leeds, Hope Lodge, No. 26.

Ephraim G. McKay, Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 27.

James E. Canfield, St. Tammany Lodge, No. 28.

Robert C. Thompson, John P. Robeson, Mansfield Lodge, No. 31.

Jepthah B. Munn, Chatham Lodge, No. 33.

John P. Lewis, Shrewsbury Washington Lodge, No. 34.

James D. Westcott, Edmund Sheppard, Cedarville Lodge, No. 35.

Benjamin Nicholls, Franklin Lodge, No. 37.

John Ellwell, John Mayhew, Jeremiah Mayhew, Pittstown Lodge, No. 38.

William Maxwell, John Allen,
Zachariah Rossell, William Jones.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master having announced the decease of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Aaron D. Woodruff, since the last Communication:

It was moved by the Right Worshipful Brother McDonald, seconded by the Right Worshipful Brother Beatty,

That a respectful testimonial to the memory of our late Grand Master be entered on the minutes of this Grand Lodge.

Which was unanimously agreed to, and Worshipful James D. Westcott, of Cedarville Lodge, No. 35, Right Worshipful James Giles, Junior Grand Warden, and Right Worshipful George McDonald, Deputy Grand Secretary, were appointed to prepare and report the same.

On motion of Right Worshipful Brother Giles:

Resolved, That the balloting box be placed on the Secretary's table, wherein every member of this Grand Lodge is at liberty to deposit his nomination for all or any of the Grand Offices; that when the ordinary business of the Grand Lodge is finished the box shall be opened and a list of the nominations made and proclaimed and the Grand Lodge then called to refreshment for a short time; that when called to labor again, the election shall commence in the presence of the candidates, and no vote shall be received for any unless he hath been previously nominated in the manner hereinbefore mentioned.

The committee heretofore appointed to revise the rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge not being ready to report, were ordered to be continued, and Brother Giles added to the committee in the place of Brother Woodruff, deceased.

The committee heretofore appointed to procure a jewel and clothing for a Past Grand Master, not being ready to report, were ordered to be continued.

Brother Reynolds, of Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17, presented the following communication, which was read and ordered to be entered upon the records of the Grand Lodge:

To the Right Worshipful the Grand Master and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Free Masons, in New Jersey:

The subscribers, the aunts and only natural guardians of the three orphan children of the late John Bently, deceased, beg leave respectfully to represent—

That we with gratitude acknowledge the receipt, through Cols. Darcy and Scott, of a donation of fifty dollars from your Right Worshipful Body, for the benefit of these orphan children, which was faithfully applied to the objects of your charity, and which, under Divine Providence, was the principal means of preserving them from the privations and sufferings that would otherwise have been their lot during the last inclement season. Were we to attempt a full expression of our feelings and those of the orphans who have experienced your charity, the effort would be vain; but the hearts of those who can exercise such pure benevolence must feel more joy in the silent approbations of conscience than in the loudest effusions of grateful praise. We only can offer up our prayers to the Throne of Grace for the prosperity of your benevolent institution, and for the welfare of those individuals who thus pour the balm of comfort into the bosom of affliction and irradiate the visage of despair with a smile of happiness.

We hope it will not be deemed impertinent in us briefly to sketch the situation of the children who have been the objects of your bounty.

Deprived of both their parents, their only natural claim for support and protection is on us, and although all our energies are devoted to the maintenance of the orphans thus thrown by a wise Providence under our care, yet being destitute of property and advanced in years, we are incapable of providing a sufficiency to supply them even with the bare necessaries of life. They have, it is true, a legal claim upon the township in which they dwell, but in the course of a few years they will be of sufficient age to earn their own subsistence, and most fervently do we hope that the children of a man who died in the service of his country may be saved the humiliating resort of becoming paupers upon the common charity of the country, and from being reduced to the necessity, not only of feeding upon the hardly extorted mite of the mercenary, but of incurring a reproach which the unfeeling would not fail to remember against them throughout every stage of their future life; a reproach which would check every fine feeling of the heart; extinguish the pride requisite to form a virtuous member of society; cause them to regard themselves with shame, and perhaps induce them eventually to descend into the rugged roads of vice.

The eldest of the children is a boy about twelve years of age, his health is delicate, but we hope that in the course of another year he will be able to earn his own support. The other two are, the one a girl about eleven years, and the other a boy about nine years of age; they are more healthy and less expensive than the eldest. They will all be placed in situations that will afford them a maintenance as soon as practicable, the two eldest probably in the course of next spring.

It is not our intention by this communication to extort a further exertion of your benevolence towards these orphans. The aid already received at your hands is sufficient to call forth and to perpetuate every grateful feeling, and we would rather humbly submit to the wise dispensation of Providence than to solicit a repetition of that bounty to which its objects had a claim, only, as having their lots cast among the unfortunate.

RACHEL STURGIS,
HANNAH B. STURGIS.

Morristown, N. J., Nov. 18, 1817.

On motion,

Resolved, That the sum of fifty dollars be paid into the hands of Brother Munn, of Chatham Lodge, No. 33, to be by them appropriated for the use of the orphan children of Brother John T. Bently, at their discretion.

Brother Andruss, from the committee appointed on that subject, made the following report, viz:

The committee appointed by the Grand Lodge at their annual Convocation, held at the city of Trenton, November 12, 5816, to investigate the charges exhibited by Hope Lodge against Brother Jacob Kerr, a member of said Lodge, do report,

That after a patient and minute examination of the charges and the testimony adduced by the complainants in support of the charges, and hearing all the party complained of could say by way of refutation or offer by way of proof in justification or mitigation, your committee are constrained to say, that in their opinion, Brother Jacob Kerr has been guilty of gross deceits in withholding from the members of Hope Lodge, with whom he had or was about to contract for a valuable property, the true and real amount of the incumbrances on said property, which was within his own knowledge.

ISAAC ANDRUS,
JEPTHA BALDWIN,
Committee.

Nov. 3, 5817.

Which report was read, whereupon,

Resolved, That the sentence of expulsion passed by Hope Lodge against Brother Jacob Kerr, be confirmed.

The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master made the following report, viz:

The Deputy Grand Master most respectfully reports that since the last Grand Communication, he visited Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 27, and was gratified with the zeal displayed by the brethren while performing the Work or Labors of the Lodge. He also examined their Lodge book and found the entries regular and apparently very correct.

He also reports that he received a communication from the Right Worshipful Franklin Davenport, Master of Woodbury Lodge, No. 11, stating the heavy loss sustained by fire, having lost almost their all as a Lodge; the warrant was also consumed, and having several respectable applications, they requested that some means might be devised by which they might work as a Lodge. The Deputy Grand Master on due consideration, granted dispensation to continue in form until the present meeting of this Grand Lodge and no longer.

The Deputy Grand Master further reports that he received a communication from Brother Anderson, stating the almost ruined state of Independence Lodge, No. 29, in consequence of which he repaired to Hackettstown, in the county of Sussex, and having convened the Lodge, encouraged them to work and persevere in their labors until the present meeting of the Grand Lodge, when on a proper statement of their situation, the Grand Lodge would direct them what measures to pursue.

All which is respectfully submitted.

Nov. 11, 5817. WM. MCKISSACK, *D. G. M.*

The Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden made the following report, viz:

The Junior Grand Warden most respectfully reports that on the 29th day of January last, in pursuance of written instructions, under the hand

and seal of the late Most Worshipful Grand Master Aaron D. Woodruff, he attended at Pittstown, in the county of Salem, where, assisted by a number of the brethren of Brearley Lodge, No. 9, Salem Lodge, No. 19, Sharptown Lodge, No. 32, and Cedarville Lodge, No. 35, and more especially by his much respected and Reverend Brothers Holmes Parvin, Chaplain of Brearley Lodge, and Richard G. Kendall, Chaplain of Sharptown Lodge, he proceeded to the consecration of the new Lodge, called Pittstown Lodge, No. 38, and to the installation of its officers, in due form, according to the ancient usages of the Craft; and he has great satisfaction in affording his testimony to the good order and harmony which prevailed on the solemn occasion.

Nov. 11, 5817. JAMES GILES.

The Worshipful James D. Westcott, from the committee appointed for that purpose, reported the following testimonials of respect to the memory of the Most Worshipful Aaron D. Woodruff, which was read, unanimously agreed to, and ordered to be entered on the records of the Society:

The annunciation by the Deputy Grand Master, of the decease of their late Most Worshipful Grand Master Aaron D. Wooodruff, Esq., since the last Communication, is heard by the Grand Lodge, with emotions of the most sincere regret and the deepest sorrow for so afflicting a dispensation of Divine Providence. It has pleased the Supreme Grand Master of the Universe to extinguish his light in the East, to vacate his seat in our Ancient Temple and to deprive us of the advantage of his labors and the benefit of his example. We bow with submission to the decrees of infinite wisdom, but the most perfect resignation to the will of Almighty Power forbids not a tear to the memory of a departed friend, nor a tribute of respect to his exalted merit.

The public virtues, the private worth, the intelligence and the various valuable and estimable qualities of the deceased, it would be superfluous to eulogize. The high confidence reposed in him by his native state, which he so long enjoyed, had rendered them generally known and properly appreciated, had endeared him to his intimate friends and caused him to be universally esteemed, respected and beloved. His name will long live in the memory of his fellow citizens. As a Mason we all knew him. His death has spread gloom throughout the Lodges in this state, which cannot soon be dissipated, and he has created a chasm in the Grand Lodge which cannot easily be filled. In his official capacity he was courteous but dignified, placid and conciliating but inflexibly just, ever cherishing and inculcating the pure and benevolent principles of the Order, tenaciously adhering to its ancient landmarks; and his Masonic information, aided by his intellectual endowments and lucid eloquence, enabling

him continually to diffuse a blaze of light, imparting knowledge to all around him. In the rites and mysteries of the Craft, it is unnecessary to say he was well skilled, and in the practice of the virtues inculcated by its precepts, few exceeded him. In the exercise of charity he was liberal but unostentatious, dispensing its benefits to the helpless, the widow and the orphan, with a peculiar delicacy of manner, the characteristic evidence of a benevolent and feeling heart.

While they deplore the loss of their late Grand Master, they derive consolation from the hope and belief that having terminated his labors on earth and entered into the world of spirits, he has passed and received the approbatory welcome of "Well done, thou good and faithful servant," from his Divine Master, and has been raised by him to a seat in the holy temple above, "not made with hands eternal in the heavens."

And while they venerate the character and revere the memory of their much respected and lamented brother, they endulge the hope that whoever may be selected his successor in performing the duties of Grand Master of New Jersey, may equal him in Masonic knowledge and zeal for the welfare of the Craft, that the great light in the golden candlestick in the East may shine with undiminished lustre.

A petition was presented from Brother Zaccheus Ray and ten others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted to them to form a new Lodge in Allowaystown, in the county of Salem, to be called Allowaystown Lodge, No. 39, which petition was read; whereupon on due consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue, and that Brother Zaccheus Ray, be the first Master, Stacy Lloyd, first Senior Warden, and Jesse Fithian, first Junior Warden of said Lodge.

A petition was presented from Brother John Allen and six others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted to them to form a new Lodge, in the township of Westfield in the county of Essex, to be called Jerusalem Lodge, No. 40, which petition was read; whereupon, on due consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue, and that Brother John Allen be the first Master, Elias Runyon, first Senior Warden, and W. D. Sherwood, first Junior Warden of said Lodge.

On motion,

Ordered, That the surrender of the warrant of Independence Lodge, be accepted, and that the said warrant be deposited in the pedestal.

Brothers John Beatty, Jr., Hedge Thompson, and Canfield,

were appointed a committee to settle the Grand Treasurer's accounts.

On motion of Brother Robeson,

Ordered, That the sum of five dollars be paid to Mansfield Lodge, No. 31, it being for expense incurred by said Lodge in communicating the death of our Most Worshipful Grand Master to the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.

A memorial was received from Woodbury Lodge, No. 11, stating the loss of their Lodge room, together with their jewels, furniture, records, &c., by fire; whereupon,

Ordered, That a new warrant do issue to Woodbury Lodge, No. 11, and also that they be exonerated from the payment of any fees for the same, as well as their charity due for the last year.

Ordered, That the sum of one hundred dollars be paid to Woodbury Lodge, No. 11, to assist them in rebuilding their Lodge room, &c.

Ordered, That the sum of thirteen dollars twelve and one-half cents be paid to Trenton Lodge, No. 5, it being for sundry expenses incurred by said Lodge in furnishing crape, &c., for the brethren who attended the funeral of the late Most Worshipful Grand Master.

Brother John Beatty, Jr., from the committee appointed on the subject, made the following report, viz.:

That they have examined the accounts of the Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer, and find them correctly stated, and that there is a balance in his hands of five hundred and four dollars and twenty-nine cents.

Which report was read and accepted.

Ordered, That the sum of four dollars be paid to the Grand Tyler, for his services in attending this Grand Lodge.

Brother Andruss presented an account amounting to fifty-five dollars and six cents, for his own services and expenses as well as those of Brother Baldwin, in attending on the committee relative to the dispute between Brother Jacob Kerr and Hope Lodge.

Ordered, That the same be allowed, and that the Grand Treasurer pay the same to Brother Andruss.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

The Grand Lodge having gone through all the other business before them, proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were duly elected, viz:

James Giles, Most Worshipful Grand Master.

Wm. McKissack, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.

Jepthah B. Munn, Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden.

Franklin Davenport, Right Worshipful Junior G. Warden.

Richard L. Beatty, Right Worshipful Grand Seeretary.

George McDonald, Right Worshipful Deputy G. Secretary.

Thomas L. Woodruff, Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer.

All the officers being present, were severally invested and installed according to ancient forms and ceremonies, and being duly proclaimed, received the accustomed salutations of the brethren present.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments, viz:

Holmes Parvin, Worshipful Grand Chaplain.

Joseph I. Thompson, Worshipful Grand Senior Deacon.

Charles Burroughs, Worshipful Grand Junior Deacon.

David Wrighter, Grand Tyler.

Who being present, (except the Worshipful Grand Chaplain) were severally invested and installed.

The Grand Lodge closed in good harmony, &c.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1818.

At a yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, at the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, the 10th day of November, A. L. 5818.

PRESENT.

M. W. JAMES GILES, Grand Master.
R. W. WILLIAM McKISSACK, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. JEPTHAH B. MUNN, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. FRANKLIN DAVENPORT, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. RICHARD L. BEATTY, Grand Secretary.
R. W. GEORGE McDONALD, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. THOS. L. WOODRUFF, Grand Treasurer.
WM. N. JEFFERS, Grand Marshal.
ISAAC H. HAMPTON, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
CHARLES BURROUGHS, Junior Grand Deacon.
DAVID WRIGHTER, Grand Tyler.

Representatives from the following Lodges attended, viz:

Wm. McKissack, Geo. McDonald, Peter Vandoren, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.

Isaac Andruss, Samuel McChesney, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

Daniel Phillips, Reuben D. Tucker, John Pearce, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

Josiah Parvin, Isaac H. Hampton, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

Franklin Davenport, James B. Caldwell, John Zane, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.

Abraham Williamson, John Sexton, Federal Lodge, No. 15.

Samuel J. Read, Charles F. Lott, John N. Offley, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.

Hedge Thompson, Wm. N. Jeffers, Salem Lodge, No. 19.

Stephen D. Day, Stephen Condit, Union Lodge, No. 21.

Lewis Mulford, Friendship Lodge, No. 22.

Thomas Gordon, Hiram Lodge, No. 25.

Joseph Dilkes, Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 29.

Jepthah B. Munn, Chatham Lodge, No. 33.

John P. Lewis, Shrewsbury Washington Lodge, No. 34.

Robert Alderman, Cedarville Lodge, No. 35.

Isaac Johnson, Pittstown Lodge, No. 38.

Richard Lott, Allowaystown Lodge, No. 39.

John Allen, Wm. D. Sherwood, Jerusalem Lodge, No. 40.

John Mershon, Thomas J. Kinney, Zachariah Rossell.
John J. Voorhees, Enoch M. Forman,

The Grand Lodge opened in ample form, and proceeded to business.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master, from the committee on that subject, reported a constitution, together with sundry rules and regulations for the government of the Grand Lodge; which report was read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following report, viz.:

The Grand Master most respectfully reports, that on the 6th day of January last he attended at Allowaystown, in the county of Salem, where, assisted by a number of the brethren of Brearley Lodge, No. 9; Salem Lodge, No. 19; Sharptown Lodge, No. 32, and Pittstown Lodge, No. 38, he consecrated the new Lodge, called "Allowaystown Lodge, No. 39," and installed officers in due form, according to the ancient usages of the Craft.

Nov. 9, 1818. JAMES GILES.

The committee heretofore appointed to procure a jewel and clothing for a Past Grand Master, not being ready to report, were ordered to be continued, with instructions to procure one or more jewels and clothing at their discretion.

On motion of the Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden, seconded by the Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden, it was

Ordered That the Charity Fund dues for the last year, from Woodbury Lodge, No. 11, be remitted.

Brother James C. Canfield, from the committee on that subject, reported, that

They had appropriated the donation made at the last Communication for the support of the orphan children of Brother Bently, agreeably to the directions of the Grand Lodge.

Which report was read and accepted.

Brothers Caldwell, Thompson and Canfield were appointed to settle the Grand Treasurer's accounts.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master made the following report, viz.:

The Deputy Grand Master most respectfully reports, that in pursuance of written instructions under the hand and seal of the Most Worshipful James Giles, Esq., Grand Master, and under the sanction of a warrant from this Lodge, he repaired to the village of Plainfield, in the county of Essex, and with the assistance of a number of brethren from Solomon's Lodge and the adjoining Lodges, he did then open a Grand Lodge in due form, and proceeded to constitute a Lodge, under the name and title of "Jerusalem Lodge, No. 40." under the jurisdiction of and acknowledging allegiance to the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, and did install the several officers therein nominated, according to the most ancient forms and usages; and further, that he visited said Lodge on the 12th of October last, and found the officers well-informed, and the members anxious of acquiring Masonic information.

The Deputy Grand Master would further state, that he visited since the last Grand Communication, Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 27, at the city of New Brunswick, and found the Lodge entries very correct, the officers well-informed, and the members performing the labor assigned them with cheerfulness, and within the bounds of the ancient landmarks and Masonic customs; all of which is respectfully submitted.

Nov. 10, 5818. WM. MCKISSACK, D. G. M.

A communication was received from the Right Worshipful Isaac Barnes, Jr., late Grand Treasurer, enclosing a statement of his accounts and praying for further time to pay the balance due from him, also offering to give security for the payment of the same; which communication and statement were read;

When, on motion, it was

Ordered, That the communication and statement be referred to Worshipful Jos. I. Thompson, Senior Grand Deacon, Charles Burroughs, Junior Grand Deacon, and Brother Phillips, Senior Warden of Trenton Lodge, and that they allow to the Right Worshipful Brother Barnes such further time for the payment of the balance due the Grand Lodge as they may deem reasonable, and that they also receive from him such security as they may think sufficient.

A petition was received from Mrs. Sarah Burnsides, widow of a deceased brother, praying for a donation from the Charity Fund, which petition was read; whereupon,

Ordered, That the sum of twenty dollars be appropriated and paid to Brother Stephen D. Day, for her relief.

On motion of Brother Andruss, seconded by Brother Canfield,

Ordered, That the sum of fifty dollars be paid to Brother James E. Canfield, to be by him appropriated for the use of the orphan children of Brother John T. Bentley, at his discretion.

A petition was presented from Brother Oliver Hatfield and nine others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted to form a new Lodge, in the borough of Elizabethtown, to be called "Washington Lodge, No. 41," which petition was read; whereupon, on due consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue, and that Brother Oliver Hatfield be the first Master, Brother Alfred Stone, the first Senior Warden, and Brother Thomas P. Walworth, first Junior Warden of said Lodge.

Brother Gordon presented the warrant of Federal Lodge, No. 15, and asking permission for the Lodge to surrender the same.

On motion,

Ordered, That the surrender of the warrant be accepted.

A petition was presented from Brother Enoch M. Forman and eight others, for a warrant to form a Lodge at Camden, Gloucester county, which petition was read and summitted to Brother Past Grand Secretary Read, and Brothers Jeffers and Andruss.

On motion of the Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden, seconded by the Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden, the constitution of the Grand Lodge was read, and unanimously agreed to.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

On motion of the Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden, seconded by the Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden, the rules and regulations were read and agreed to, and the Most Worshipful Grand Master was requested to have a sufficient number of copies of the constitution, rules and regulations printed for the use of the Grand Lodge.

On motion of the Worshipful Brother Jeffers, it was

Resolved, That the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary be requested to forward five copies of the constitution, rules and regulations, together with the extract of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, to each of the subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

A communication was received from Mrs. Isabella Simpson, widow of Charles Simpson, asking for a donation from the Charity Fund; which communication was read and ordered to lie on the table.

A petition was presented from Brother Hosea Snethen and six others, praying for a warrant to form a Lodge in Deerfield, Cumberland county; which petition was read and disagreed to, and the applicants had leave to withdraw their petition.

Brother Read, from the committee on the application for a warrant for a Lodge at Camden, reported that it was inexpedient at this time to grant the prayer of the petitioners; which report was read and agreed to, and the petitioners had leave to withdraw the petition.

Brother Thompson, from the committee on the Grand Treasurer's accounts, reported a general statement of the funds of the Grand Lodge, and also that they had examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, and found them correctly stated, and that there is a balance remaining in his hands of sixty-eight dollars and fifty-five cents; which report was read and agreed to.

On motion,

Ordered, That the Right Worshipful George McDonald be exonerated from the payment of a note of hand given to the Grand Lodge by Brother Ephraim T. Ogden and the said Brother McDonald, for one hundred dollars, on the 15th day of November, 1810.

On motion,

Ordered, That the sum of four dollars be paid to the Grand Tyler for his services in attending this Grand Lodge.

On motion of Brother Day,

Ordered, That the Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer proceed immediately to use such measures for the collection of all moneys due the Grand Lodge, (except the principal due on the bond given by Trenton Lodge, No. 5) as he may deem proper, and that he invest the same in stock of the United States or bank stock, at his discretion.

The Grand Lodge having gone through all the business before them, proceeded to the election of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were appointed, viz:

James Giles, Most Worshipful Grand Master.
William McKissack, R. W. Deputy Grand Master.
Jepthah B. Munn, Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden.
Hedge Thompson, Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden.
Richard L. Beatty, Right Worshipful Grand Secretary.
George McDonald, R. W. Deputy Grand Secretary.
Thomas L. Woodruff, Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer.

All the Grand Officers elect (except the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Secretary) being present, were severally invested and installed according to ancient forms and ceremonies, and being duly proclaimed, received the accustomed salutations of the brethren present.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments, viz:

Rev. Holmes Parvin, Worshipful Grand Chaplain.
Joseph I. Thompson, Worshipful Grand Senior Deacon.
Charles Burroughs, Worshipful Grand Junior Deacon.
David Wrighter, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge closed, &c.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1819.

At a yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, at the city of Trenton, on the 9th day of November, A. L. 5819:

PRESENT.

M. W. JAMES GILES, Grand Master.
R. W. WM. McKISSACK, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. JEPTHAH B. MUNN, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. LEWIS ATTERBURY, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. RICHARD L. BEATTY, Grand Secretary.
R. W. CHARLES F. LOTT, Deputy Grand Secretary, p. t.
R. W. THOMAS L. WOODRUFF, Grand Treasurer.
JOSEPH I. THOMPSON, Senior Grand Deacon.
CHARLES BURROUGHS, Junior Grand Deacon.
DAVID WRIGHTER, Grand Tyler.

Representatives from the following Lodges attended, viz.:

Lyman Waldbridge, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.
Lewis Atterbury, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
Daniel Phillips, John Pearce, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
Josiah Parvin, John Sibley, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
James B. Caldwell, John Zane, John Cade, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.
Aaron Hassert, Washington Lodge, No. 12.
Thomas Bullman, Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.
John S. Darcy, William Scott, Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.
Samuel J. Read, Charles F. Lott, Ebenezer Tucker, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.
William N. Jeffers, Richard Craven, Salem Lodge, No. 19.
David P. Shrope, Daniel Case, Hiram Lodge, No. 25.
Joseph Dilkes, E. G. McKay, Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 27.
John Scott, St. Tammany Lodge, No. 28.
Benjamin Egbert, Mansfield Lodge, No. 31.
Josiah Shull, Sharptown Lodge, No. 32.
John P. Lewis, Shrewsbury Washington Lodge, No. 34.
Jacob Wick, Pittstown Lodge, No. 38.
James Thompson, Allowaystown Lodge, No. 39.
John Allen, Jerusalem Lodge, No. 40.

Joseph Bloomfield, P. G. Master, Zachariah Rossell.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form and proceeded to business.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following report, viz.:

The Grand Master most respectfully reports, that on the 7th day of July last, he attended at Elizabeth Town, in the county of Essex, and assisted by a number of brethren, he consecrated the new Lodge, called Washington Lodge, No. 41, and installed its officers in due form, according to the ancient usages of the Craft; and also on the 4th of this instant, he attended at Woodbury, in the county of Gloucester, and there installed in due form, the officers of Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.

Nov. 9, 1819. JAMES GILES.

The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master made the following report, viz.:

The Deputy Grand Master most respectfully reports, that agreeably to invitation, he repaired to the village of Plainfield, in the county of Essex, on the 24th June last, and with the assistance of the Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden, the Deputy Grand Secretary, and a number of brethren from Solomon's Lodge, No. 1, Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 27,

and the surrounding Lodges, proceeded to consecrate the new Lodge room, or hall, (erected by Jerusalem Lodge, No. 40), to Masonry, virtue, and brotherly love. The Lodge room is indeed handsomely ornamented according to Masonic style.

The Deputy Grand Master further reports, that he visited since the last Grand Communication, Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 27, at the city of New Brunswick, and also Jerusalem Lodge, No. 40, at the village of Plainfield, in the county of Essex, that he found their Lodge entries apparently very correct, and kept in a truly Masonic manner, the officers well informed in the duties of their several stations, and the members performing the duties and labors assigned them with assiduity and attention, and according to the ancient Masonic usages; all which is most respectfully submitted.

Nov. 9, 5819. WM. MCKISSACK.

Brothers Caldwell, Scott, and Sibley, were appointed to settle the Grand Treasurer's accounts.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master, Giles, from the Committee appointed upon that subject made the following report, viz.:

That they have contracted with a skillful artist in Newark, for jewels for Past Grand Masters, that the jewels were not finished according to appointment, but that they calculated from the information received from the said artist, that the same would be finished in the course of the present month.

Which report was read and agreed to.

Brother Phillips from the committee appointed upon that subject, reported:

That they have frequently called upon the Right Worshipful Brother Barnes, late Grand Treasurer, respecting the settlement of his accounts, but that they could neither obtain from him the payment of the balance due to the Grand Lodge or security for the same.

Which report was read and accepted and the committee discharged from the further consideration of the business, and Brothers Craven, Allen and Tucker were appointed to confer with Brother Barnes, respecting the settlement of his accounts.

Brother Atterbury, of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, was appointed to confer with Past Grand Master Cummings, one of the executors of the late Right Worshipful J. Rhea, formerly Grand Treasurer, and request payment of the balance due from the said estate to the said Grand Lodge.

Upon a representation of Trenton Lodge, No. 5, that they were unable at this time to discharge the amount of the interest due from them to the Grand Lodge, it was

Ordered, That they have until the next annual Communication to discharge the said interest.

A communication was received from Dennis Creek Lodge, No. 36, praying, for certain reasons therein set forth, the surrender of their warrant; which communication was read, whereupon,

Ordered, That the said Lodge have leave to surrender their warrant; which was accordingly surrendered and filed.

A petition was presented from Brother Hosea Snethen and six others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted to them to form a Lodge in Deerfield street, Deerfield township, Cumberland county, to be called Deerfield Lodge, No. 42; which petition was read, whereupon,

Ordered, That a warrant do issue, and that Brother Holmes Parvin, Jun., be the first Master, Richard Parker, first Senior Warden, and Hosea Snethen, first Junior Warden of said Lodge.

A petition was received from a number of the brethren of Harmony Lodge, No. 8, praying, for certain reasons therein stated, the restoration of their warrant; which petition was read, whereupon,

Ordered, That their warrant be restored to them.

A petition was received from Mrs. Ann Farr, widow, of Fortitude Lodge, No. 81, of the State of New York, requesting a donation from the Charity Funds of the Grand Lodge; which petition was read, whereupon,

Ordered, That the petition lie upon the table.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

On motion,

Ordered, That it be the duty of the Grand Secretary to give notice of the meetings of the Grand Lodge in the newspapers published in the city of Trenton.

Brother Craven, from the committee appointed upon that subject reported:

That they had called upon Brother Barnes, late Grand Treasurer, and that he had executed a note to the present Grand Treasurer, with John R. Smith as security, for the sum of two hundred and thirty-three dollars and ninety-five cents, payable in twelve months, with interest.

Which report was read and agreed to.

Application was made on behalf of Washington Lodge, No. 12, and Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 27, for leave to surrender their respective warrants, for the purpose of uniting said Lodges under a warrant to be called "Union Lodge, No. 12;" when it was

Ordered, That upon proper application being made to the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, producing to him extracts from the minutes of the respective Lodges, authorizing the surrender of the said warrants, and a request for a new warrant, that he do issue the same without any payment for the same, and cause the old warrants to be filed.

On motion,

Ordered, That it be recommended to the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, to enforce the penalty of the fifteenth section of the General Regulations of the Grand Lodge.

Brother Caldwell from the committee appointed upon the Grand Treasurer's accounts, reported a general statement of the funds of the Grand Lodge; and also,

That they have examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, and find them correctly stated, and that there is a balance remaining in his hands of one hundred and fourteen dollars and fifty-three cents. The committee also reported that the following Lodges have not been represented, neither have they paid their dues to the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge for the several years annexed to each of them, viz: Farmers Lodge, No. 14, for 4 years; Augusta Lodge, No. 23, for 3 years; United Lodge, No. 24, for 4 years; Princeton Lodge, No. 30, for 3 years; Dennis Creek Lodge, No. 36, for 3 years, and Franklin Lodge, No. 37, for 2 years.

Which report was read and agreed to.

On motion,

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary write to the officers of the several Lodges mentioned in the foregoing report, and inform them that unless

they comply with the eleventh section of the first Article of the Bye-Laws of the Grand Lodge, that the penalty mentioned in the said section will be enforced at the next annual Communication.

On motion,

Ordered, That the sum of four dollars be paid to the Grand Tyler for his services in attending this Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

The Grand Lodge having gone through all the other business before them, proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were appointed, viz.:

James Giles, Most Worshipful Grand Master.

William McKissack, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.

Jepthah B. Munn, Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden.

Samuel J. Read, Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden.

Richard L. Beatty, Right Worshipful Grand Secretary.

John S. Darcy, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Secretary.

Thomas L. Woodruff, Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer.

All the Grand Officers elect being present, were severally invested and installed, according to ancient forms and ceremonies, and being duly proclaimed, received the accustomed salutations of the brethren present.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments, viz:

Rev. Holmes Parvin, Worshipful Grand Chaplain.

Hedge Thompson, Worshipful Grand Marshal.

Joseph I. Thompson, Worshipful Grand Senior Deacon.

Charles Burroughs, Worshipful Grand Junior Deacon.

David Wrighter, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge closed, &c.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1820.

At a yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, at the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, the 14th day of November, A. L. 5820.

PRESENT.

M. W. JAMES GILES, Grand Master.
R. W. WILLIAM McKISSACK, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. JEPTHAH B. MUNN, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. SAMUEL J. READ, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. THOS. L. WOODRUFF, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. RICHARD L. BEATTY, Grand Secretary.
R. W. JOHN S. DARCY, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. HEDGE THOMPSON, Grand Marshal.
JOSEPH I. THOMPSON, Senior Grand Deacon.
CHARLES BURROUGHS, Junior Grand Deacon.
DAVID WRIGHTER, Grand Tyler.

Representatives from the following Lodges attended, viz:

Wm. McKissack, John Coxe, John Vanleer, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.
Isaac Andruss, Jonathan C. Ball, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
Thomas L. Woodruff, Daniel Phillips, Zachariah Rossell, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
Isaac H. Hampton, John Sibley, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
Aaron Hassert, Washington Lodge, No. 12.
Abraham Godwin, Paterson Orange Lodge, No. 13.
William Scott, William McFarlan, Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.
Charles F. Lott, James Rogers, Joseph I. Sleeper, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.
William N. Jeffers, Richard Craven, Salem Lodge, No. 19.
Stephen D. Day, Union Lodge, No. 21.
John Lanning, Friendship Lodge, No. 22.
Henry Bush, James Herring, Joseph Dilkes, Hiram Lodge, No. 25.
Stephen Moore, Levi Picket, Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 27.
Jacob Wilson, St. Tammany Lodge, No. 28.
Peter Bilderback, Sharptown Lodge, No. 32.
Abraham Reynolds, Chatham Lodge, No. 33.
Josiah Holmes, Shrewsbury Washington Lodge, No. 34.
Robert Alderman, Cedarville Lodge, No. 35.
Jacob Wick, Pittstown Lodge, No. 38.
Stacy Lloyd, Allowaystown Lodge, No. 39.

Oliver Hatfield, Solomon W. Crane, Washington Lodge, No, 41.
Holmes Parvin, Jr., Deerfield Lodge, No. 42.

Daniel Richmond, Ebenezer Tucker,
Charles Carson, Thomas Gordon,
Ephraim G. Mc Kay.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form and proceeded to business.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following report, viz:

The Grand Master most respectfully reports, that on the last Festival of St. John the Evangelist, he installed in due form, the officers of Brearley Lodge, No. 9, at Bridgetown; that on the 27th day of January last, he also installed the officers of Friendship Lodge, No. 22, at Port Elizabeth; and that on the 17th day of May last, he attended, at Deerfield, in the county of Cumberland, and assisted by a number of the brethren, consecrated the new Lodge called "Deerfield Lodge, No. 42," and installed its officers in due form, according to the ancient usages of the Craft.

He further reports, that seven Master Masons residing in and near Tuckerton, in this state, having petitioned for a special dispensation authorizing Brother Ebenezer Tucker, a member of Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18, to congregate a sufficient number of brethren at the town of Tuckerton, and there to form and open a Lodge, and to admit, enter and make Free Masons, according to the true ancient custom, and the same being recommended by our Right Worshipful Brother Samuel J. Read, Junior Grand Warden, a dispensation was granted accordingly, on the first day of January last, to continue in force until the next Communication of the Grand Lodge. JAMES GILES.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master, from the committee on that subject, presented to the Grand Lodge three jewels for Past Grand Masters, which were received and laid upon the Grand Secretary's table.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary be directed to write to Past Grand Master John N. Cummings, who is one of the executors of the estate of the late Grand Treasurer, J. Rhea, and request payment of the balance due from the said estate, to the Grand Lodge.

The Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer reported,

That he had called upon the officers of Trenton Lodge, No. 5, for the amount of the interest due upon their bond to the Grand Lodge; that he has received from them the sum of $38.30, leaving a balance of interest due of $300.03; that the said Lodge have incurred considerable debts in

consequence of improvements made to their hall a few years since, which has consumed nearly all the funds that could be collected at this time, but that they have promised that the balance of interest should be discharged as speedily as possible. They have, therefore, requested me to ask for a further indulgence.

Which report was read, whereupon,

Resolved, That the further time of one year be allowed to them to settle up the interest.

The Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer made the following report:

The Grand Treasurer begs leave to report that he made application to I. Barnes and J. R. Smith, for the payment of their joint note for $233.95, that Mr. Smith informed the Grand Treasurer that it was not in his power to pay the whole of the note at this time, but would reduce the note to $200, and give two notes with an approved indorser, one at six months and the other at twelve months, for $100 each, with interest; that L. Rickey, Esq., cashier of State Bank, being the indorser proposed, your Grand Treasurer thought it most prudent to take the two notes, in which arrangement he prays the concurrence of the Grand Lodge.

The Right Worshipful Grand Secretary reported:

That Washington Lodge, No. 12, and Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 27, had not formed a union of the Lodges agreeably to the permission granted at the last Communication. He also reported that he had, agreeably to the orders and directions of the last Communication, written to the several delinquent Lodges, but had not received any answers from them.

On motion,

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary write to the several Lodges who are delinquent, and inform them that one year more is allowed to them to be represented at the Grand Communication, and pay up their respective dues to the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge, otherwise the penalty mentioned in the eleventh section of the first article of the by-laws will be enforced.

Brothers Jeffers, Phillips, and Sibley were appointed to settle the Grand Treasurer's accounts.

Brothers Andruss, Lott, and Hatfield were appointed to examine the correspondence.

A petition was presented from Brother Ebenezer Tucker and eleven others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted them to form a new Lodge in Tuckerton, Burlington

county, to be called Tuckerton Lodge, No. 43, which petition was read.

Whereupon, on due consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue, and that Ebenezer Tucker be the first Master, William K. Mason first Senior Warden, and David Oliphant, Jun., first Junior Warden of said Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

Brother Jeffers, from the committee on that subject, made the following report, viz.:

The committee report a general statement of the funds of the Grand Lodge, and also that they have examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, and find them correctly stated, and that there is a balance in his hands of three hundred and sixty-seven dollars and sixty-six cents.

Which report was read and agreed to.

Brother Andruss, from the committee on that subject, reported:

That they had examined the correspondence of the several Grand Lodges with this Grand Lodge, in which they find nothing material to be acted upon, except the following communication from the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, which was ordered to be published and to which they beg leave to call the attention of their brethren, as a person answering the description lately passed through this State, calling himself Keyser, and who imposed upon several of the brethren:

GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT FREE MASONS OF SOUTH CAROLINA,
CHARLESTON, 31st March, 5820.

Resolved, That Henry Retter, having been guilty of a gross imposition upon the Committee of Charity of this Grand Lodge, and having been detected as a notorious impostor and vagrant, as appears from a letter of the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, the Corresponding Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge do communicate the same to the different Grand Lodges, and to the several Lodges under this jurisdiction.

Henry Retter is a German, of low stature, well formed, dark complexion, plausible manner, and speaks deliberately the English language with the German accent. Has in his possession a Masonic Diploma from England, which he shows to all from whom he solicits aid. He also exhibits an European Passport.

By order, JOSEPH GALLUCHAT,
Corresponding Grand Secretary.

To the M. W. the Grand Lodge of New Jersey.

A petition was received from Mrs. Simpson, widow of a deceased brother, praying for a donation from the Charity Fund of this Lodge, which petition was read; whereupon,

Ordered, That Brother Dilkes be appointed to inquire into her situation, and if he finds her in indigent circumstances, he is authorized to draw upon the Grand Treasurer for any sum not exceeding twenty dollars, to be appropriated to her relief.

A petition was presented from Brother Stephen R. Grover, and thirteen others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted to them to form a new Lodge in the township of Caldwell, in the county of Essex, to be called "Essex Lodge, No. 44," which petition was read; whereupon, on due consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue and that Brother James Orton be the first Master, Stephen R. Grover, first Senior Warden, and Peter Speer, first Junior Warden of said Lodge.

On motion,

Ordered, That the sum of twenty dollars be paid to Brother Stephen D. Day, to be appropriated to the relief of Mrs. Sarah Burnsides, widow of a deceased Brother.

On motion,

Ordered, That the sum of $30 be paid to Brother Wilson, to be appropriated to the relief of the orphan children of Brother Bentley, deceased.

On motion of Brother Andruss, the following preamble and resolution was read and unanimously adopted:

Information having been communicated to the Grand Lodge, of the death of our late worthy and highly esteemed Brother George McDonald, Esq., late Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Secretary,

Resolved, That this Lodge do deeply deplore the death of our beloved brother, and sincerely sympathize with his afflicted family in this dispensation of Divine Providence, and also lament the loss which the fraternity and society in general has sustained in the decease of this worthy individual.

On motion,

Ordered, That St. Tammany Lodge, No. 28, be permitted to surrender their warrant, to be returned to them whenever proper application is made for the same.

On motion,

Ordered, That the Trenton Lodge be authorized to procure a carpet for the hall occupied by the Grand Lodge, and that they deduct the amount of the same out of the moneys due from the said Lodge to the Grand Lodge.

On motion,

Ordered, That the sum of $4 be paid to the Grand Tyler, for his services in attending this Communication.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

The Grand Lodge having gone through all the other business before them, proceeded to the election of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were appointed;

Jepthah B. Munn, Most Worshipful Grand Master.
Samuel J. Read, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.
Hedge Thompson, Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden.
Isaac Andruss, Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden.
Thomas L. Woodruff, Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer.
Richard L. Beatty, Right Worshipful Grand Secretary.
John S. Darcy, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Secretary.

All the Grand officers elect being present, were severally invested and installed, according to ancient forms and ceremonies, and being duly proclaimed, received the accustomed salutations of the brethren present.

On motion of Brother Andruss, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to our late Most Worshipful Grand Master Giles, for his zeal and devotedness to the interests of the fraternity, while officiating as Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master McKissack, for his long, faithful and zealous devotion to the interests of Masonry while officiating as Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments, viz:

Rev. Holmes Parvin, Worshipful Grand Chaplain.
Zachariah Rossell, Worshipful Grand Marshal.
Charles F. Lott, Worshipful Grand Pursuivant.
Joseph I. Thompson, Worshipful Grand Senior Deacon.
Charles Burroughs, Worshipful Grand Junior Deacon.
David Wrighter, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge closed, &c.

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NOVEMBER SESSION, 1821.

At a yearly Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, held at the hall, in the city of Trenton, November, 13th, A. L. 5821.

PRESENT.

M. W. JEPTHAH B. MUNN, Grand Master.
R. W. SAMUEL J. READ, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. ISAAC ANDRUSS, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JAMES W. BURNET, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. THOMAS L. WOODRUFF, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. RICHARD L. BEATTY, Grand Secretary.
R. W. JOHN S. DARCY, Deputy Grand Secretary.
ZACHARIAH ROSSELL, Grand Marshal.
JOS. I. THOMPSON, Senior Grand Deacon.
CHARLES BURROUGHS, Junior Grand Deacon.
CHARLES F. LOTT, Grand Pursuivant.
DAVID WRIGHTER, Grand Tyler.

Representatives from the following Lodges attended:

William McKissack, Timothy Crane, Daniel Sergent, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.
James W. Burnet, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
Daniel Phillips, John Pearce, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
Peter B. Shafer, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.
Isaac H. Hampton, John Sibley, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

John Dunham, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.
David Smith, Washington Lodge, No. 12.
Benjamin Hamilton, Farmers' Lodge, No. 14.
Thomas Bullman, Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.
William Scott, William McFarlan, Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.
Jacob Egbert, Joseph J. Sleeper, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.
John M. Sailer, William N. Jeffers, Salem Lodge, No. 19.
Jepthah B. Baldwin, Union Lodge, No. 21.
William Tuttle, Augusta Lodge, No. 23.
Ephraim G. McKay, E. T. Maynard, Stephen Moore, Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 27.
Joseph Barton, Mansfield Lodge, No. 31.
John P. Lewis, Shrewsbury Washington Lodge, No. 34.
George Combs, Pittstown Lodge, No. 38.
Zaccheus Ray, Allowaystown Lodge, No. 39.
John Allen, Elias Runyon, Jonathan Dunham, Jerusalem Lodge, No. 40.
Alfred Stone, William Halstead, Jr., Washington Lodge, No. 41.
Ebenezer Tucker, Tuckerton Lodge, No. 43.

VISITORS:

James Vandike,	William B. Ewing,	Charles Knapp,
John Mershon,	John Coxe,	Peter Walker,
Wm. Hinchman,	William Vanarsdale,	John Lanning.
Richard Johnson,		

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form and proceeded to business.

Brother Dilkes reported,

That he had inquired into the situation of Mrs. Simpson; that he found her in indigent circumstances, and that she was the widow of a deceased brother, upon which he paid to her the donation of $20 that was appropriated by the last Grand Communication for her relief.

Which was read and approved of.

Brother Wilson reported,

That he had appropriated the donation of the last Grand Communication, for the relief of the orphan children of Brother Bentley, deceased.

Brother Day reported,

That he had appropriated the donation of the last Grand Communication, for the relief of Mrs. Sarah Burnsides, the widow of a brother deceased.

On motion,

Ordered, That the sum of fifteen dollars be paid to Brother Darcy, to be appropriated to the relief of the eldest son of Brother Bentley, deceased.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following report, viz:

BRETHREN:

At our last Grand Communication, our worthy and ever to be revered Grand Master General Gyles, thought proper to decline a re-election, and totally unprepared for such an occurrence, I was chosen his successor.

The elevation to the chair of the Grand Lodge, suddenly brought with it to my reflections, a range of important duties to perform, and the same time required, in my apprehension, such qualifications as I could not but feel myself unequal to.

Filled with just apprehensions of incapacity, when placed in competition with our late inestimable Grand Master, my approach to the installation could be no less than timid advance of one oppressed with the weight of inadequacy, yet grateful in the fullest extent for the partiality then expressed by this Grand Lodge.

To say, as a presiding officer of this Institution, I shall equal your expectations, would be in vain—If you expect much I shall probably fall far short of them—Yet fully sensible that I may fail in the requisite Masonic attainments, I hesitate not to say, my zeal for the welfare of our fraternity and respect for the genuine principles of our Order, shall not, as far as in my power lies, be inferior to any.

In conformity to the custom heretofore pursued, I shall report the Masonic occurrances of the past year, presumed to be interesting as far as they have come to my knowledge.

On the 27th of last December, I repaired to Caldwell, in the county of Essex, to constitute a new Lodge in that place, where, assisted by the Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden, Brother Andruss, acting as Deputy Grand Master, the Right Worshipful Brother Darcy, Deputy Grand Secretary, and also the Most Excellent High Priest, Brother Ruckle, and a number of members of Washington Chapter, at Newark, together with brethren of distinction from contiguous neighborhoods, a Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, after which a respectable procession was formed and proceeded to the church, where the ceremonies of installing the officers of the new Lodge, constituting and dedicating the same, accompanied with an address from the presiding Grand Officer, took place in open church, attended by a large concourse of attentive spectators. The scene was impressive, orderly and it is believed, beneficial to the fraternity and gratifying to the audience. The exercises in the church being finished, the procession resumed its march, returned to the Lodge Hall, and ended the performances of the day in harmony and friendship.

Whilst noticing Masonic processions which have occurred in the past year, I cannot forbear to mention the splendid celebration of the last festival of St. John, by Paterson Orange Lodge, No. 13. The most numerous

collection of the Craft I have ever seen together in the state, in brilliant procession, advancing in becoming order and propriety to render homage to the Deity, and before the altar of devotion, mentally to renew their obligations of mutual friendship and brotherly love, was truly a sight of no ordinary kind.

The interest of the scene was also greatly increased by an oration pronounced by our Hon. Brother Charles Kinsey, of Essex, which in point of Masonic intelligence and real worth, it is believed, has been seldom equalled.

Temperance at the festive board and genuine friendly feeling among the fraternity assembled on this occasion, appeared to prevade and close the hallowed day.

Well might it be said therefore, on this occasion, "behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

Yet, while these remarks tend to show in a degree the apparent prosperity of our Order, it nevertheless becomes my duty to notice the adverse side of the scene. Masonry, and this Grand Lodge in particular, has in the past Summer, lost two out of the number of its best friends. Past Grand Master, General Cummings, and Brother John Gifford, once members of this Grand Lodge, are no more. They have passed from us "to that bourne from whence no traveler returns." To speak of their respective merits on this occasion, would far exceed the due bounds of this communication, if any language of mine could do justice to their memory; I leave to this Grand Lodge (some of whom were particularly acquainted with our departed brethren) to say, what shall be the measure and tribute of our respect.

May we not, with great propriety, express in some way, our loss on this occasion, impracticable as it may be to measure deep felt regrets by adequate language.

During the past Summer it was my intention to visit the different Lodges within a convenient distance of my place of residence; part only and very limited has this intention been fulfilled, owing to an unusual press of professional business, which commenced in an early part of the season and has continued urgent until very recently.

From personal views as well as information obtained, I have to observe that the Lodges in the counties of Morris and Essex, continue in a favorable state of progress, and more particularly, Paterson Orange Lodge, No. 13, and Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17, under the prompt energies and faithful care of their respective officers, are in a very flattering state of increase and improvements, nor is it improbable other Lodges may be spoken of in similar terms of approbation with equal propriety, but for want of due intelligence.

So far as it respects visiting the different Lodges in this State, heretofore by the several Grand Officers, as far as my information extends, this duty

has been performed chiefly, although limited, by the Grand and Deputy Grand Masters, and by them mainly to Lodges within their vicinity, so that some Lodges have had no direct attention paid to their concerns by any Grand Officer for some years; indeed, in the county of Sussex, the Lodges have not been visited by a Grand Officer within my knowledge since the annual visit of the late Grand Master, Brother Woodruff, exceeding ten years since. Previous to this period, as near as can now be recollected, we had an annual visit in East Jersey, about the year 1805, from Grand Master Brother Beatty, and these comprise the only circular visits from any of our Grand Masters concerning which I have any remembrance.

In fact the different Grand Masters for a number of years past, engaged more or less in professional pursuits, it is presumed have not been in a situation to afford the necessary time to discharge the duty of visiting the different Lodges in the State; and certainly if the duty is performed it should not be partially done, all the Lodges of the State should be equally the objects of our Masonic attention.

The rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge seem to require that the Grand and Deputy Grand Masters, Grand Wardens and Grand Secretary shall visit all the Lodges in the State annually, and where this cannot conveniently be done it is the duty of the Grand Master to select Grand Visitors for this purpose.

Now, in order that this duty may hereafter be performed, if it meets the wishes of the Grand Lodge, I would suggest the propriety of dividing the State into districts, and assign to each Grand Officer the superintendence of a certain district, and in those districts where Grand Officers cannot conveniently attend, to have Grand Visitors appointed, or if this Grand Lodge authorize it by special resolution it might be well to follow the mode pursued in one of the Eastern States, viz.: to appoint district Deputy Grand Masters, with instructions to visit Lodges, inquire into their affairs, lecture them in the mode of Work adopted by the Grand Lodge, and report to the Grand Communication at every annual meeting.

It will be readily perceived, in pursuing this mode, if any irregularity exist in the different Lodges, the Grand Lodge will be duly apprised of it, and may take measures to rectify the existing state of things, as well as to receive from time to time detailed reports of the prosperity of the Fraternity in different parts of the State.

Our Masonic Brethren in the new State of Maine, have recently organized a Grand Lodge, and to all appearance under truly respectable auspices; they very cautiously request to be recognized as such by this Grand Lodge, as will be seen by their letter and constitution annexed, received within the past year, and will be herewith communicated for your consideration.

Since our last Grand Communication, I have the pleasure to acknowledge having received letters from the Secretaries of Brearly, Cincinnati,

Allowaystown, and Salem Lodges, communicating the names of the officers of said Lodges, together with an account of their places of residence, in compliance with one of the regulations of this Grand Lodge.

In closing this communication, I trust the Grand Lodge will indulge me while I recommend to their notice the propriety of adopting some measure expressive of our grateful respect for our late Grand Master, as well as the late Deputy Grand Master.

With this view I shall lay before you, by the hands of the Grand Secretary, resolutions for consideration, with a hope that this Grand Lodge may adopt them, subject, nevertheless, to such modifications as they in their wisdom may deem necessary.

J. B. Munn,
G. M. of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master offered the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge present the Most Worshipful Past Grand Master, General Giles, with a Grand Lodge certificate, as a testimony of their respect, not only for his public and private virtues, but as a small evidence of their grateful remembrance of his ardent zeal, unequalled skill, and valuable services rendered, while acting as their Grand Master.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge, present the Right Worshipful Past Deputy Grand Master, McKissack, with a Grand Lodge certificate, as a testimony of their esteem for his long and faithful labors for the benefit of the Masonic Fraternity, and particularly for his useful services rendered while acting as their late Deputy Grand Master.

Resolved further, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to carry the foregoing into effect, accompanied by a printed record of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge at their annual Communication, together with a copy of these resolutions, with the certificates.

Which were read and ordered to lie on the table.

The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master made the following report, viz.:

The Deputy Grand Master respectfully reports, that in pursuance of the instruction from the Most Worshipful Grand Master, he repaired to Tuckerton, in the county of Burlington, on the 25th of June last, for the purpose of installing the officers of Tuckerton Lodge, No. 43, and with the assistance of divers brethren from Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18, Washington Shrewsbury Lodge, No. 34, and from the city of Philadelphia, did install the said officers into their respective offices, and consecrated the new Lodge according to ancient usages of the Craft. The Deputy Grand Master has the pleasure to observe, that the officers of this new Lodge

appear to be well instructed in their duty, and have, at considerable expense, fitted up in neat and handsome style, the new Lodge room, and that from the knowledge and intelligence of the present worthy brother who presides over this new Lodge, I have no doubt but that the genuine principles of Masonry will be advanced and inculcated, to the honor of the Fraternity.

Nov. 13, *A. L.* 5821. SAMUEL J. READ, D. G. M.

The Right Worshipful Brother Andruss offered the following preamble and resolutions, viz.:

Most Worshipful Grand Master:

I rise to announce to this Grand Lodge the death of our distinguished fellow citizen and brother, John N. Cumming, Past Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, since the last Annual Communication, and beg leave to introduce the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, entertaining the highest respect and consideration for the virtues and character of deceased, Most Worshipful Past Master, General John N. Cumming, as a citizen, as a patriot, and as a member of our Fraternity, do sincerely sympathize with his afflicted widow and family in this trying visitation of Divine Providence, and do tender them our most sincere and affectionate wishes for their health and happiness.

Which preamble and resolution was read and unanimously agreed to.

On motion,

Ordered, That the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary enclose a copy of the same to Mrs. Cumming, widow of the Most Worshipful Past Grand Master Cumming.

The Right Worshipful Grand Secretary reported:

That he had written to the delinquent Lodges, as directed at the last Grand Communication, but had not received any answers from them.

Ordered, That Farmers Lodge, No. 14, and Franklin Lodge, No. 37, have until the next annual Communication to appear and pay up their dues to the Charity Fund.

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary communicate the foregoing resolution to the officers of said Lodges.

Ordered, That United Lodge, No. 24, and Princeton Lodge, No. 30, for neglect in being represented at the Communications of the Grand Lodge, and non-payment of their dues to the Charity Fund thereof, be stricken from the list of Lodges.

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary write to the late officers of said Lodges, and demand their warrants, &c.

A petition was presented from Brother Richard Johnson and six others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted to them to form a new Lodge, in Camden, Gloucester county, to be called "Camden Lodge, No. 45," which petition was read; whereupon, on due consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue, and that Richard Johnson be the first Master, E. Dougherty first Senior Warden, and David Sims first Junior Warden of said Lodge.

Brothers Rossell, Sibley, and Scott, were appointed to settle the Grand Treasurer's accounts.

Brothers Jeffers, Runyon, and Baldwin, were appointed to examine the correspondence.

A petition was received from Mrs. C. Ramage, widow of John Ramage, praying for a donation from the Charity Fund of the Grand Lodge; which petition was read, whereupon,

Ordered, That Brothers Andruss and Baldwin be a committee to inquire whether the said Catherine Ramage is the widow of a deceased brother, and if she is in such indigent circumstances as to require the relief prayed for, and if upon such inquiry they should find the same to be true, they are authorized to draw upon the Grand Treasurer for any sum not exceeding $15, to be appropriated for her relief.

Brother Rossell, from the committee on that subject, reported a general statement of the funds of the Grand Lodge; and also,

That they have examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, and they find them correctly stated, and that there is a balance in his hands of $598.51.

Which report was read and agreed to.

Ordered, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to invest the sum of $250 in stock of the banks of the city of Trenton, or United States stock.

Brother Jeffers, from the committee on that subject, made the following report, viz.:

The Committee of Correspondence report, that they have examined the communications of the different Grand Lodges, and do not find therein any matters necessary to be acted upon by this Grand Lodge, except a communication from the Grand Lodge of the State of Maine, notifying the establishment of a Grand Lodge in that State, and requesting our fraternal recognition and correspondence; upon which communication the committee submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge recognize the Grand Lodge of the State of Maine, and will correspond with the officers thereof as an independent Grand Lodge.

Which resolution was read and agreed to.

The resolutions offered by the Most Worshipful Grand Master were read and agreed to.

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary procure certificates of a suitable form, to be delivered to all Past Grand Officers who may desire the same at any Grand Communication.

A communication was received from Jacob Kerr, formerly of Hope Lodge, No. 26, together with sundry documents relative to his expulsion from Hope Lodge, which were referred to Brothers Rossell, Woodruff and Beatty.

Brother Andruss, from the committee on that subject, made the following report which was read and agreed to:

The committee appointed at the last annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, to investigate the charges preferred against Brothers Hatfield and Crane, the Worshipful Master and Secretary of Washington Lodge, No. 41, of Elizabeth Town, by William Hinchman and Thomas P. Walworth, late members of said Lodge, beg leave to make the following report:—Your committee informed the parties and met them at an early day, at Newark. The memorial containing the charges, and the counter memorial were read; much time was spent in explanations, and endeavors to bring the contending parties to an amicable adjustment of their differences, which measure was strongly recommended by your committee, who rose without effecting the desired object, and concluded to give the parties further time to settle their controversy in a private way, to which the parties consented, and were to inform your committee of the result.

At the request of the parties, your committee met again at Elizabethtown, December 23, 1820, in the Lodge room, their private attempts to effect a reconciliation having proved abortive. After a patient and minute investigation of the complaints made against Oliver Hatfield, the Worshipful Master of Washington Lodge, No. 41, and Solomon Crane, the Secretary, your committee were of opinion that the first charge was not supported; also, that the second charge was not supported against Oliver Hatfield, the Worshipful Master of the Lodge; but that the said second charge was supported against Solomon Crane, the Secretary.

The third charge was wholly unsupported, which related to the funds of the Lodge, and your committee are happy to state that after a full investigation of the said third charge, the brothers preferring the charges,

expressed their entire confidence in the honesty and integrity of the Master and Secretary; the funds which had come into the Secretary's hands, having all been faithfully accounted for by him in settlement made with him by a committee from the Lodge, a short time before this. There had been some informality on the part of the Secretary. He had paid some accounts due from the Lodge to individuals and taken their receipts, without the funds having passed through the hands of the Treasurer. This informality was satisfactorily explained and accounted for to your committee by several of the members of the Lodge present.

Solomon Crane, the Secretary, made a full and unequivocal acknowledgment of the fact of which he was charged in the second account, confessed his error and begged to be forgiven.

Your committee, after a patient examination of the whole cause of controversy and complaint, made such remarks as the nature of the case called for, and summed up, by exhorting the contending parties to lay aside all animosities and to meet each other in brotherly love, and to give the right hand of fellowship, and in future, study to promote the harmony and happiness of the Lodge and of one another. Brothers Hatfield, the Worshipful Master, and Solomon Crane, the Secretary, readily offered to comply with the advice of your committee, but Brothers Hinchman and Walworth declined the proffered reconciliation, but at the same time expressed their satisfaction with the conduct of your committee and the decisions which they had made upon the several charges, but gave as the reason for their refusal, that the whole of the circumstances had not been disclosed. Your committee would therefore recommend that the complaints be dismissed. All which is respectfully submitted.

ISAAC ANDRUSS,
JEPTHAH BALDWIN,
Committee.

Newark, December 28, 1821.

The Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer reported,

That he had called upon Trenton Lodge, No. 5, respecting the balance of interest due from them to the Grand Lodge. That amount had not been paid, but that the said Lodge had expended several sums of money in repairing and fifting up their room for the accommodation of the Grand Lodge.

Whereupon, on motion,

Resolved, That they be allowed for all sums of money so expended, in part payment of their interest, and that they have until the next Grand Communication to pay the balance.

Ordered, That the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary procure suitable collars and sashes for the Past Master's jewel.

Ordered, That the sum of four dollars be paid to the Grand Tyler for his services in attending this Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

The Grand Lodge having gone through all the other business before them, proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were unanimously re-appointed:

Jepthah B. Munn, Most Worshipful Grand Master.

Samuel J. Read, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.

Hedge Thompson, Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden.

Isaac Andruss, Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden.

Thomas L. Woodruff, Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer.

Richard L. Beatty, Right Worshipful Grand Secretary.

John S. Darcy, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Secretary.

All the Grand Officers elect being present (except the Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden, who was invested and installed by proxy) were severally invested and installed according to ancient forms and ceremonies, and being duly proclaimed, received the accustomed salutations of the brethren present.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments, viz:

Rev. Holmes Parvin, Worshipful Grand Chaplain.

Zachariah Rossell, Worshipful Grand Marshal.

Charles F. Lott, Worshipful Grand Pursuivant.

Joseph I. Thompson, Worshipful Grand Senior Deacon.

Charles Burroughs, Worshipful Grand Junior Deacon.

David Wrighter, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge closed, &c., &c., &c.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1822.

At the annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, held at the hall in the city of Trenton, November 13th, A. L. 5822, A. D. 1822.

PRESENT.

M. W. JEPTHAH B. MUNN, Grand Master.
R. W. SAMUEL J. READ, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. ISAAC ANDRUSS, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. HEDGE THOMPSON, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. RICHARD L. BEATTY, Grand Secretary.
R. W. THOMAS L. WOODRUFF, Grand Treasurer.
ZACHARIAH ROSSELL, Grand Marshal.
ISAAC H. HAMPTON, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
CHARLES BURROUGHS, Junior Grand Deacon.
DAVID WRIGHTER, Grand Tyler.

Representatives from the following Lodges attended, viz:

William McKissack, Daniel Sergeant, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.
Daniel Phillips, John Davisson, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
Robert A. Lewis, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.
Isaac H. Hampton, John Sibley, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
John E. Jeffers, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.
Aaron O. Hassert, David Smith, Washington Lodge, No. 12.
Benjamin Hamilton, Farmers' Lodge, No. 14.
William Scott, Royal Hopkins, Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.
John Cushman, George Haywood, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.
Richard Craven, Salem Lodge, No. 19.
Jepthah Baldwin, Union Lodge, No. 21.
John Gressman, Friendship Lodge, No. 22.
Ephraim G. McGay, James Stevens, Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 27.
Abner Parke, Lambert Boyman, Mansfield Lodge, No. 31.
Jacob Wilson, Chatham Lodge, No. 33.
John P. Lewis, Shrewsbury Washington Lodge, No. 34.
Jeremiah Nixon, Cedarville Lodge, No. 35.
Zaccheus Ray, Allowaystown Lodge, No. 39.
John Allen, Jerusalem Lodge, No. 40.
Thomas Pitts, Washington Lodge, No. 41.
Holmes Parvin, Jr., Deerfield Lodge, No. 42.
Ebenezer Tucker, Tuckerton Lodge, No. 43.
Ichabod B. Ward, Essex Lodge, No. 44.
Peter R. Walker, Camden Lodge, No. 45.

VISITING BRETHREN.

Charles Kinsey,	Rev. — Furguson,	James Cook,
Stephen Fairchild,	H. B. Pole,	Charles Parker,
Peter B. Shaffer,	Wm. Maxwell,	Wm. N. Jeffers.
James Cushman,	Wm. Halstead, Jun.,	

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, and proceeded to business.

Brother Darcy reported:

That he had appropriated the donation of the Grand Lodge at their last Communication, for the relief of the eldest son of Brother Bently, deceased.

Brother Andruss, from the committee on that subject, reported:

That they had inquired into the situation of Mrs. Catherine Ramage, widow of a deceased brother, and found her in indigent circumstances, and paid her the donations of the Grand Lodge, at their last Communication, which was very thankfully received.

The Grand Secretary reported:

That he had written to the late officers of the several Lodges that were ordered to be stricken from the list of Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, and demanded their warrants, &c., and that he had not received an answer thereto.

The committee appointed to examine the documents relative to the expulsion of Jacob Kerr from Hope Lodge, No. 26, made the following report:

That after a careful perusal of his communication, and an examination of the vouchers accompanying it, they are clearly of opinion that the course pursued by the members of his Lodge in regard to him, was harsh and unfeeling, and their sentence of expulsion as greatly exceeding the bounds of justice. They therefore respectfully offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That the sentence of expulsion passed by Hope Lodge, No. 26, against Jacob Kerr, be reversed, set aside, made void, for nothing holden, and that he be reinstated in all the rights and benefits of Masonry.

ZAC. ROSSELL,
THOMAS L. WOODRUFF,
RICHARD L. BEATTY.

Dated Nov. 12, 5822.

The Grand Secretary reported:

That he had procured the sashes and collars for Past Grand Officers, and that he had forwarded the resolution of the Grand Lodge to the widow of Past Grand Master Cummings, deceased.

The report of the committee respecting Jacob Kerr was read, and after some discussion was disagreed to.

On motion,

Ordered, That Jacob Kerr have leave to withdraw his documents.

The Grand Treasurer reported:

That he could not invest the moneys of the Grand Lodge agreeably to the resolution of the last Grand Communication,

Whereupon,

Resolved, That he be authorized to invest the sum of three hundred dollars on bond and mortgage upon real estate, provided that stock cannot be procured at a reasonable price.

Brothers Haywood, Lewis, and Scott were appointed to settle the accounts of the Grand Treasurer.

Brothers Hampton, Tucker, and Rossell were appointed to examine the correspondence.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

Brother Hampton, from the committee on that subject, made the following report, viz.:

The committee appointed to investigate and examine the foreign correspondence of the Grand Lodge beg leave to report, that they have examined the communications of the respective Grand Lodges of the United States, and a communication from a number of Masonic brethren assembled at Washington, on the 9th of March last, relative to the establishment of a General Grand Lodge for the United States; that as it respects the latter communication, they see no good reason for departing from the resolution of this Grand Lodge on the same subject, expressed in the years 5807–8, disapproving of the same. They do not find any other matters to be acted upon by this Grand Lodge.

Which report was read and agreed to.

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary forward a copy of the foregoing resolution to William W. Seaton, Esq., at the city of Washington.

Brother Rossell offered the following resolution, which was read and agreed to.

Whereas, A perfect acquaintance with the signatures of the Grand Officers of the several Grand Lodges holding correspondence with each

other, is of vital importance in testing the authenticity of papers professedly issuing from under the hands and by the authority of any of them; therefore,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary, when communicating to the respective Grand Lodges with whom a correspondence is preserved, the result of any election of officers of this Grand Lodge, wherein a change may have been made, shall accompany the same with the signatures of the Grand Master, the Deputy Grand Master, and Grand Wardens, written with their own proper hands and duly authenticated under his hand, together with a request to each and every such Grand Lodge, that they will forthwith, and as often hereafter as by any change of Grand Officers it may be rendered important, to furnish to this Grand Lodge a similar document.

On motion of Brother John E. Jeffers, and seconded by Brother Hampton, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge recommend to the subordinate Lodges under its jurisdiction the adoption of a uniform mode of working, agreeably to the principles of Illustrative Masonry, as laid down by Brother Cross, in his Lectures and Monitor.

Brother Haywood, from the committee on that subject, reported:

That they had examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, and found them correctly stated, and that there remains a balance in his hands of five hundred and fifty-six dollars and ninety-nine cents.

Which report was read and agreed to.

Resolved, That the sum of seventeen dollars and twenty-five cents be received in full for all small sums of money due from Farmers Lodge, No. 14, to the Grand Lodge.

Ordered, That the sum of $15 be paid to Brother Baldwin, to be appropriated for the benefit of Mrs. Catherine Ramage.

Ordered, That the sum of $15 be paid to Brother Wilson, to be appropriated for the relief of the eldest son of Brother Bently, deceased.

Ordered, That the sum of $15 be paid to Brother Hedge Thompson, to be appropriated for the relief of the child belonging to Brother John Stretch, of Salem.

Ordered, That the sum of $15 be paid to Brother S. J. Read, to be appropriated to the relief of the children of Brother Jacob Myers, deceased.

Brother Rossell offered the following resolution, which was read and agreed to, viz.:

WHEREAS, We are of opinion, that a union and communion of the

different Grand Lodges of the United States, will have a tendency to promote good will and harmony among them; therefore,

Resolved, That when as many as seven Grand Lodges shall unite in sending delegates to a convention of Grand Lodges, to be held in either the cities of New York or Philadelphia, for the promotion and benefit of Masonry, that then the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, and the Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden for the time being, be and they are hereby appointed delegates on the part of this Grand Lodge to attend the same.

Ordered, That the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary communicate the foregoing resolution to the different Grand Lodges in the United States.

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to loan upon bond and mortgage at his discretion the sum of three hundred dollars of the funds of the Grand Lodge.

Ordered, That the sum of four dollars be paid to the Grand Tyler for his services in attending this Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

The Grand Lodge having gone through all the other business before them, proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were appointed, viz:

Jephthah B. Munn, Most Worshipful Grand Master.
Samuel J. Read, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.
Hedge Thompson, Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden.
John S. Darcy, Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden.
Richard L. Beatty, Right Worshipful Grand Secretary.
Zac. Rossell, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Secretary.
Thomas L. Woodruff, Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer.

All the Grand Officers being present, were severally invested and installed, according to the ancient forms and ceremonies, &c.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments, viz.:

Rev. Thomas Pitts, Worshipful Grand Chaplain.
Charles Burroughs, Worshipful Senior Grand Deacon.
John Mershon, Worshipful Junior Grand Deacon.
John E. Jeffers, Worshipful Grand Marshal.
Charles F. Lott, Worshipful Grand Pursuivant.
David Wrighter, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge closed, &c.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1823.

At the annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, held at the hall in the city of Trenton, Nov. 11, A. L. 5823, A. D. 1823.

PRESENT.

M. W. JEPTHAH B. MUNN, Grand Master.
R. W. SAMUEL J. READ, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. HEDGE THOMPSON, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOHN S. DARCY, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. RICHARD L. BEATTY, Grand Secretary.
R. W. ZACHARIAH ROSSELL, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. THOMAS L. WOODRUFF, Grand Treasurer.
W. JOHN E. JEFFERS, Grand Marshal.
W. CHARLES BURROUGHS, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. JOHN MERSHON, Junior Grand Deacon.
W. DAVID WRIGHTER, Grand Tyler.

Representatives from the following Lodges attended, viz.:

William McKissack, W. M., John Cox, J. W., Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.
Prudden Allen, W. M., Isaac Andruss, P. M., St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
Daniel Phillips, TREAS., Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
Isaac H. Hampton, W. M., Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
John E. Jeffers, W. M., Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.
Aaron Hassett, W. M., T. S. Vanarsdalen, SEC., Union Lodge, No. 12.
Andrew Parson, W. M., Ph. Dickerson, P. M., Paterson Orange Lodge, No. 13.
Royal Hopkins, W. M., James Quimby, S. W., Cincinnatti Lodge, No. 17.
Joseph Sleeper, S. W., George Haywood, SEC., Strange N. Palmer, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.
Richard Craven, S. W., Wm. Plummer, J. W. Salem Lodge, No. 19.
Thomas Armstrong, P. M., Augusta Lodge, No. 23.
Samuel Humphreys, W. M., Sharptown Lodge, No. 32.
Luther Little, W. M., Chatham Lodge, No. 33.
James D. Westcott, Jr., Cedarville Lodge, No. 35.
Jacob Wick, W. M., Pittstown Lodge, No. 38.
Zaccheus Ray, S. W., Allowaystown Lodge, No. 39.
John Allen, S. W., Jerusalem Lodge, No. 40.
Benjamin W. Tucker, W. M., Washington Lodge, No. 41.
Ebenezer Tucker, P. M., Tuckerton Lodge, No. 43.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.—R. W. Wm McKissack, P. D. G. Master, R. W. Isaac Andruss, P. S. G. Warden, R. W. Franklin Davenport, P. J. G. Warden.

VISITING BRETHREN.

James Cushman,	Banter Sayre,	Elias J. Thompson,
James Rodgers,	Martin C. Howe,	Levi Disbourough.
Wm. B. Kinney,	Ephraim Beach,	

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, and proceeded to business.

Brother Wilson reported:

That he had appropriated the donation of the Grand Lodge at their last Communication, for the relief of the eldest son of Brother Bently, deceased.

Brother H. Thompson reported:

That he had appropriated the donation of the Grand Lodge at their Communication, for the relief of the child of Brother John Stretch, of Salem.

Brother S. J. Read reported:

That he had appropriated the donotion of the Grand Lodge at their last Communication for the relief of the children of Jacob Myers, deceased.

The Right Worshipful Grand Secretary reported:

That he had communicated to the several Grand Lodges in the United States the resolution adopted at the last Grand Communication, relating to the appointment of delegates to attend a convention of the Grand Lodges.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following report, viz.:

BRETHREN:

Among the Masonic occurrences of the past year I have first to report:

That a number of brethren having associated together for the formation of a Lodge at Berkshire Valley, town of Jefferson, and county of Morris, their application being also supported by the recommendation of Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17, and other respectable brethren, I granted them a dispensation to form themselves into a Lodge, and work as such under the name of Euclid Lodge, and subsequently installed their officers, under the expectation that they will at this time solicit this Grand Lodge to grant them a warrant.

In the course of the past year also, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York, sent me a written communication by way of complaint, against St. John's Lodge, No. 2, for refusing charitable aid to the widow of a deceased brother, because said brother formerly belonged to some Lodge in New York, and referring the applicant back to New York for relief.

The Grand Master aforesaid, in this letter deprecates the principle that the mere boundary line of a State shall be considered by St. John's Lodge aforesaid, as limiting Masonic charity, estimating Masons as he does, wheresoever located, as all of one family, alike meriting aid if worthy and distressed, no matter where they hail from.

I presume it will not be questioned that the sentiments of this Grand Lodge, as a matter of duty as well as courtesy, should be freely expressed on this subject, and conveyed to the Grand Lodge of New York.

By particular request I attended the celebration of St. John's day, the 24th June past, with Union Lodge, No. 21, at Orange, in Essex county. The procession on that occasion was numerous, orderly, and splendid; harmony and friendship appeared to cheer the Craft, and well might it be said, "how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." The address, pronounced by the Rev. B. Johnson, Deputy Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of New York, on the history and virtues of holy St. John, was not only highly satisfactory to the brethren assembled, but greatly admired by a large audience of spectators. The ceremonies of the day having ended in the usual harmony and order, the Grand Secretary and Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, who also attended on that occasion, solicited my attendance in the most obliging terms to install the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of said State. Accordingly, on the 7th July ensuing, accompanied by the Junior Grand Warden, Brother Darcy; the Most Excellent High Priest, Brother Ruckle, and Brother Parsons, the Worshipful Master of Paterson Lodge, No. 13, I repaired to New York, and installed the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of said State.

The assemblage of brethren at the ceremony was numerous and respectable; the distinguished courtesy, respect, and attention shown us was not only gratifying, but such as to leave an impression of grateful feelings and brotherly affection, a sure pledge of future good will on our part, and high consideration toward the Grand Lodge who honored us by this distinction.

A communication lately received, is herewith presented from the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, proposing the formation of a General Grand Lodge for the United States, and inviting our co-operation in such measures as shall conduce to this subject.

This subject, although it has once received the consideration of this Grand Lodge, owing nevertheless, to the respectable source from whence the communication emanates, claims our attention, and I would accordingly recommend the appointment of a committee to give it a deliberate reflection and make report thereon.

Since our last Grand Communication, the pressure of professional business has been such that it has not been in my power to attend to the duty of visiting Lodges to much extent. As far as has been convenient,

however, I have devoted attention to this duty; but despairing of being able to visit all the Lodges even in the Eastern section of the State, as I long have done, and considering that it is highly probable that your Grand Masters in future may be so much engaged in the necessary pursuits of business as to preclude their being able to devote their time, and comply with the Grand Lodge regulations as it respects their duty in visiting, lecturing, and reporting upon the state of the Lodges within our jurisdiction, I would once more beg leave to suggest to this Grand Lodge, whether it will not be for the good of the Order, if said Grand Lodge will divide the State into convenient districts, and appoint a Grand Officer or Grand Visitor (as the case may require) in each district, to superintend the Lodges, so far only as to correct irregularities in their Work (if any exist), to lecture or otherwise instruct them, and report as to the condition of Lodges annually, to the Grand Master for the time being, or to the Grand Lodge.

If it shall be objected that this system may prove too expensive to the Grand Lodge, let the Lodges bear such a proportion of the expense as may be reasonable and just.

I should not again introduce this subject for the consideration of the Grand Lodge, was it not that I have so often heard a wish expressed in many Lodges to be visited and lectured by their Grand Officers; and it may be within reason to say, that we have but few Lodges in the State that would not be essentially benefitted by an investigation of their affairs, the friendly advice, direction and instruction of a Grand Officer or Grand Visitor, deputed by the Grand Lodge to make them at least an annual visit, if no more.

Do we not sometimes hear of irregularities practised in some Lodges? —of the frequent abuse of the principles of our Order, in introducing unworthy and immoral candidates? Is there not much inexpertness in the Work; inexperience, or rather ignorance of Masonic definition, in the Lodges?—a want of that knowledge which experience and scientific investigation only will give of the real principles of our institutions?—a want of harmony, of friendship, of conformation to ancient landmarks, to ties which should ever bind?

I presume to say my much respected brethren around me will say there is.

Will a judicious system of visitation, lecturing, instruction, advice and friendly precept, from Grand Officers or Grand Visitors, correct these evils?

If they exist, what better remedy have we? What else is to dispel the mists of ignorance, to instruct inexperience, to correct error, to restore harmony to our edifice, to display the beauties of moral and mystic science, but light from the East? Shall we not then raise the curtain,

that Masonic light with her splendid effulgence shall beautify and adorn our Temples?

Will not this Grand Lodge, then, comprising at this day for the greater part the embodied intelligence of Masonry in this State, at least endeavor to give a new impulse to the Lodges under their paternal care? Will they not by instruction stimulate their zeal and intention, excite a new spirit of emulation among the Craft to excel in knowledge, in virtue, in harmony, friendship, and especially in brotherly love? If I am not for the moment greatly misled by fancy or ill-judged zeal, I hope these suggestions will not be considered visionary. If I err in my conclusion, I shall, notwithstanding, confidently repose in safety upon the ever known indulgence and candour of my brethren, to duly appreciate my motives.

J. B. MUNN,

Nov., A. L. 5823, *G. M. of the G. L. of New Jersey.*

The Right Worshipful Isaac H. Hampton, made the following report, viz.:

Most Worshipful Grand Master:

The subscriber begs leave to make the following report:

That conformably to a certificate received from the Grand Secretary, dated Oct. 8th, 1822, appointing him Grand Visitor to the different Lodges in the county of Cumberland, and requesting that he should inspect the proceedings thereof, and also deliver a course of lectures on Masonry to the officers and brethren, he has in part executed the task assigned him, having visited once within the last year, Friendship Lodge, No. 22, and Deerfield Lodge, No. 42, and twice Cedarville, No. 35, and is thereby able to inform the Grand Lodge that the proceedings of those Lodges appear to be conducted agreeably to general principles and usages of the ancient Order; the officers are prompt and zealous in executing the duties of their stations, the brethren intelligent, but anxious for further light in Masonry.

Being himself a member of Brearley Lodge, No. 9, and thereby having a knowledge of its proceedings, he has the satisfaction to inform the Grand Lodge that he believes this Lodge still continues to enjoy progressive improvement in the Ancient Craft.

Franklin, No. 37, from the best information that can be obtained, has not been in operation for more than a year past, and there appears to be no disposition in its members to attempt to resuscitate it.

He begs leave further to observe, that the time of his visit to Friendship Lodge was employed in the installation of officers of the Lodge, and in giving general instruction in the four first degrees; but in Cedarville, and Deerfield Lodges, a course of lectures have commenced and regularly progressed through the first degree, and general instructions given in the second and third. The brethren appeared to be highly gratified, ex-

pressing a desire that opportunities of improvement might be frequently afforded.

His professional pursuits and also the general unhealthy state of our country, has prevented further attention to this subject, so interesting, and the accomplishment of which is so desirable to every lover of Masonry. ISAAC H. HAMPTON.

Nov. 12th, 5822.

The communication from the Grand Lodge of New York, relating to the application of Patty De Witt, widow of a deceased brother, to St. John's Lodge, No. 2, praying aid from the Charity Fund of said Lodge, was read, and referred to Brothers E. Tucker, W. N. Jeffers, and Ph. Dickerson.

Brothers Hampton, John E. Jeffers, and James D. Westcott, Jr., were appointed to examine the correspondence from other Grand Lodges.

Brothers Palmer, Scott, and Little, were appointed to settle the Grand Treasurer's accounts.

A petition was presented from Brother Joseph Dickerson, Jr., and eleven others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted to them to form a new Lodge in Berkshire Valley, Jefferson township, Morris county, to be called "Euclid Lodge, No. 46," which petition was read; whereupon, on due consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue, and that Brother John Sherman be the first Master, John H. Stanborough, first Senior Warden, and David Allen, first Junior Warden of said Lodge.

On motion of Brother I. H. Hampton,

Resolved, That the communication from the Most Worshipful Grand Master to the Grand Lodge be referred to a committee, with instructions to report on such parts thereof as have not been referred to any committee.

And Brothers Wm. N. Jeffers, Isaac H. Hampton, and Isaac Andruss were appointed a committee for that purpose.

Brother Tucker, from the committee on that subject made the following report, which was read and agreed to, viz.:

The undersigned committee, to whom was referred the communications from the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, relative to the Widow De Witt, respectfully beg leave to report, that they have had the subject

under consideration, and have been attended by the officers and one of the members of St. John's Lodge, No. 2. From the statements made by those respectable brethren, the committee are of opinion that no censure should be passed on St. John's Lodge, No. 2, for having refused charity to the said De Witt—that charity was not refused upon the principles alleged, as she has often been relieved by that Lodge. But from the pressure of business before the Grand Lodge, and the few moments allowed the committee to investigate the subject, they are not prepared to make a full report at this time, and therefore ask leave to submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee to whom was referred the communication from the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, be continued, and make their full report at the next Grand Communication.

EBEN. TUCKER,
WM. N. JEFFERS,
PH. DICKERSON.

Brother Palmer, from the committee to settle the Grand Treasurer's accounts, reported:

That they had examined the same, and found them correctly stated, and that there is a balance remaining in his hands of one hundred and seventy-nine dollars and twenty-four cents.

Which report was read and agreed to.

Brother I. H. Hampton, from the committee upon that subject, made the following report, viz.:

The undersigned committee, to whom was referred the foreign correspondence of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, have examined the voluminous documents handed to them by the Grand Secretary, and are of opinion that they cannot give the important subjects embraced in those papers such satisfactory consideration as to be enabled to make proper report thereon at this Grand Communication, and they therefore respectfully submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee to whom was referred the foreign correspondence, have until the next Grand Communication to make report in relation to the same.

ISAAC H. HAMPTON,
JOHN E. JEFFERS,
JAMES D. WESTCOTT, JR.

Which was read and agreed to.

Brother Wm. N. Jeffers, from the committee on that subject, made the following report, viz.:

The undersigned committee to whom was referred the communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, have had the same under consideration, and from the high importance of the subjects recommended by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, the committee, deeply impressed with the duty assigned them, respectfully submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee to whom was referred the communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Master have until the next Grand Communication to report upon the various and important subjects submitted to their consideration.

WM. N. JEFFERS,
ISAAC H. HAMPTON,
ISAAC ANDRUSS.

Ordered, That the sum of seventy-five dollars be paid to Brother I. H. Hampton, to be appropriated for the relief of Brother Jonathan Brooks, of Cumberland county.

Ordered, That the sum of ten dollars be paid to Brother John E. Jeffers, to be appropriated for the relief of Brother William Newburn.

Ordered, That the sum of ten dollars be paid to Brother Benjamin W. Tucker, for the relief of Brother Smith Baldwin.

Ordered, That the sum of five dollars be paid to Brother B. W. Tucker, to be appropriated for the relief of the widow of Brother Swift.

The Grand Lodge having gone through all the other business before them, proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were appointed, viz.:

Jepthah B. Munn, Most Worshipful Grand Master.

Samuel J. Read, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.

Hedge Thompson, Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden.

John S. Darcy, Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden.

Richard L. Beatty, Right Worshipful Grand Secretary.

John Scott, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Secretary.

Thomas L. Woodruff, Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer.

All the Grand Officers elect being present, were severally invested and installed, according to the ancient forms and ceremonies, &c.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments, viz.:

Rev. Thomas Pitts, Worshipful Grand Chaplain.
Charles Burroughs, Worshipful Grand Senior Deacon.
John E. Jeffers, Worshipful Grand Marshal.
Stacey M. Palmer, Worshipful Grand Pursuivant.
Daniel Philips, Worshipful Grand Steward.
Thomas Grant, Worshipful Grand Steward.
David Wrighter, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge closed, &c.

ATTEST: RICHD. L. BEATTY,
Nov. 11th, A. L. 5823. *Grand Secretary.*

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1824.

Extract of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at their Hall, in the city of Trenton, on the 9th day of November, A. L. 5824.*

PRESENT.

M. W. JEPTHAH B. MUNN, Grand Master.
R. W. SAMUEL J. READ, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. HEDGE THOMPSON, Senior Grand Warden,
R. W. JOHN S. DARCY, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. RICHARD L. BEATTY, Grand Secretary.
R. W. JOHN SCOTT, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. THOMAS L. WOODRUFF, Grand Treasurer.
W. REV. THOMAS PITTS, Grand Chaplain.
W. JOHN E. JEFFERS, Grand Marshal.
W. STRANGE N. PALMER, Grand Pursuivant.
W. CHARLES BURROUGHS, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. JOHN MERSHON, Junior Grand Deacon.
W. DAVID WRIGHTER, Grand Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.—Maskell Ewing, I. H. Hampton, Isaac Andruss.
PAST MASTERS.—Simeon Baldwin, James Cook.

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* The proceedings of this year were not published at the usual time, in consequence of the indisposition of the late Grand Secretary.

Representatives from the following Lodges attended viz:

John Cox, M., Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.
Pruden Alling, M., St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
John Pearce, M., Zachariah Rosell, J, W., Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
Joseph Y. Miller, M., Eph Green, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.
I. H. Hampton, P. M., W. B. Ewing, P. M., Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
J. J. Foster, S. W., Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.
Joseph Dilks, M., Haley Fish, Union Lodge, No. 12.
Andrew Parsons, M., John Vail, S. W., C. S. Blauvelt, J. W., Paterson Orange Lodge, No. 13.
William Gray, S. W., Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.
Royal Hopkins, M., James Quimby, S. W., Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.
J. I. Sleeper, M., John Roberts, J. W., Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.
William Plummer, M., Salem Lodge, No. 19.
Daniel Babbitt, M., Amos A. Harrison, S. W., Union Lodge, No. 21.
John Gustin, M., Augusta Lodge, No. 23.
Luther Little, M., Chatham Lodge, No. 33.
J. P. Lewis, M., Shrewsbury Washington Lodge, No. 34.
Jacob Wick, M., Pittstown Lodge, No. 38.
Zaccheus Ray, M., Allowaystown Lodge, No. 39.
E. A. Darsey, M., J. Allen, J. W. Scott, P. M., Jerusalem Lodge, No. 41.
George Sowders, TREAS., Deerfield Lodge, No. 42.
I. Beach, M., Essex Lodge, No. 44.
Perry C. Neil, M., Peter R. Walker, S. W., Camden Lodge, No. 45.
John Sherman, M., Joseph Dickinson, Jr., TREAS., Euclid Lodge, No. 46.

VISITING BRETHREN.

Jeremiah Stull, No. 38,
Joseph Munn,
Daniel Kilburn,
Samuel Camp,
William Hunt, No. 16,
Zephaniah Drake, No. 17.
Samuel Disborough, No. 3,
X. J. Maynard, No. 5,
Jacob Wilson,
Seth W. Washburn, No. 31, Vermont,
James Cushman, No. 18,
G. D. Wall, No. 5,
Richard Bentley, No. 12,
A. Bradford, from France,
Josiah B. Howell, No. 2,
J. B. McComb Delaplain, No. 91, N. Y.
J. P. Garniss, No. 91, New York,
Amzi Dodd, No. 48,
Robert C. Thompson, No. 31,
Daniel Swayze, No. 26,
P. B. Shafer, No. 8,
J. R. Stewart, Phœnix Lodge, N. Y.
Martin M. Howe, No. 27.

Grand Lodge opened in ample form and proceeded to business.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following report, viz:

BRETHREN:

In reporting to you the Masonic occurrences of the past year within my observation, I shall first notice the dedication and consecration of a new Masonic Hall in the town of Paterson.

Pursuant to an invitation from Brother Parsons, the Worshipful Master of Paterson Orange Lodge, No. 13, I attended, on the 27th of last December, with the Right Worshipful Brother Darcy, Junior Grand Warden, the Right Worshipful Brother Feltus, Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of New York, and many brethren from adjacent Lodges. The officers of the Lodge being first installed, a numerous and well ordered procession was formed and proceeded to the new hall, where the solemn ceremonies of consecration and dedication were performed, after which the procession was resumed and marched to the church, where an appropriate and very learned address was pronounced by Right Worshipful Brother Feltus. The other exercises of the day were conducted in much harmony and social affection and it is presumed, greatly to the satisfaction of all concerned.

The Festival of St. John, on the 24th of last June, was celebrated by the Essex Lodge, in Caldwell. The meeting of the Fraternity assembled, was one of much good fellowship, friendship, order and brotherly affection. On this occasion the aid of the Junior Grand Warden Brother Darcy, the Past Grand Junior Warden Brother Andruss, C., the Most Eminent Brother Ruckle, Past Master, Brothers Ellison, Goodwin, the Worshipful Master Brother Hopkins, and many other respectable brethren who assisted on this day, is thankfully acknowledged. Since the last Grand Communication, the officers of a new Lodge in Berkshire Valley, Morris county, have been installed by virtue of a warrant granted last year, and their Lodge denominated "Euclid Lodge, No. 46," has been constituted. A dispensation has been granted for the formation of a Lodge in Bloomfield, Essex county, and the officers selected in their petition have been installed agreeably to ancient forms and ceremonies.

Also a dispensation has been granted for the formation of a Lodge in Rahway, Essex county, with authority to work as such.

In the course of the past year, an evident increase of Craftsmen have been added to the different Lodges in some sections of the state. A renovated spirit seems to be enkindled and new energies awakened to aid the cause of Masonry; but especially, I have much pleasure in announcing that an event of high importance has recently added an additional weight of testimony in favor of our philanthropic Institution and exhibited to the open face of the world another patron, friend and advocate of our order in the person of the Nation's Guest, the illustrious General De La Fayette. The attending circumstances connected with meeting General La Fayette, are in themselves, I presume to hope, so far interesting and honorable to our Fraternity that I may venture to crave your

indulgence while I introduce them in detail as the closing part of my communication, and the more so as I indulge the expectation that this Grand Lodge will esteem the circumstances to be detailed, worthy to be recorded with their annual transactions. On the 23d day of September last past, pursuant to an invitation from Washington Lodge, No. 41, at Elizabethtown, I repaired to that place in order with them and the brethren invited for the occasion, to meet our illustrious Brother La Fayette. On this event I have much pleasure in acknowledging the support and aid received by the presence of the Past Grand Master Brother Giles, also the Junior Grand Warden Brother Darcy, the Most Eminent C. Brother Ruckle, the Worshipful Master, Brothers Tucker, Parsons, Little, Babbit, and Alling of the Essex Lodge and the members present. Brother La Fayette and his escort alighted at the end of a lengthy procession of different Lodges ready formed to receive him whenever he arrived. When accompanied by the Governor of this state, Brothers General Jonathan Dayton and Colonel T. T. Kinney, they walked through the opened ranks of the procession to an elevated platform arranged for the occasion, where he was received by the municipal authority of the town; after which, on a signal being given, attended by the Past Grand Master Brother Giles, the Junior Grand Warden Brother Darcy, and Brother Ruckle, we proceeded through the line of the procession to the platform, where, on meeting our distinguished brother, the following address was pronounced to him:

Brother La Fayette:

It is my fortunate lot at this time, to have the pleasure to meet and address you in behalf of my Masonic brethren of New Jersey.

With sentiments of ardent gratitude for illustrious services you have rendered us toward achieving our National Independence, and particularly impressed with feelings of Fraternal affection, we tender you a sincere welcome to our country.

Whilst the offerings of real respect and applause, the spontaneous effusion of a delighted people, greet you wheresoever you advance among us, we presume to offer you the deep veneration, the warm affection and friendship of your Masonic brethren, inferior to none in ardor and sincerity. This happy meeting is to us an event of great importance. It is a day which we, our children, remote prosterity, and more especially the Masonic Fraternity, will hereafter delight to call up in pleasing recollection.

We hail it as auspicious to our Order, for although superstition, prejudice, and persecution, have frequently spent their whole powers upon us, nevertheless it is our consolation to know that many of the truly great and good in every age have been our supporters.

In times past, particularly in the American Revolution among a host of worthies devoted to the cause of liberty, long since "gone to that bourne

from whence no traveler returns," and who so gloriously and successfully contributed to establish the freedom of millions, we hail as brothers and illustrious ornaments in our Temple, the incomparable Washington, Warren, the Martyr of liberty, and Franklin, the benefactor of mankind.

La Fayette, a living monument of greatness, virtue and faithfulness still exists. A second Washington is now among us. Let us celebrate the event with heartfelt joy.

Among the Archieves of Masonry let the transaction of this day be recorded and deposited, that a surviving hero of our Revolution has now met with us on the level of true affection and on the square of just equality; that it is our highest happiness not only to greet him as the undeviating advocate for the liberties of mankind, but also by the endearing tie of friend and brother.

In addition to this address, I had the honor of stating to our incomparable brother that by the particular request of Washington Lodge, No. 41, I was desired to offer for his acceptance, a Masonic jewel prepared for the occasion, "as a small token of their respect and brotherly affection, soliciting him to receive it as such;" whereupon, receiving a cheerful assent thereto, I had the additional satisfaction of publicly investing our revered Brother La Fayette with this offered tribute, a memento of Masonic regard.

After which our highly esteemed brother returned an answer reciprocating the sentiments addressed to him, acknowledging the great satisfaction he felt in meeting his brethren on this occasion, and adverted to the persecution which Masons and friends of human rights and liberty had ever experienced from the hand of intolerance, usurped power and oppression; then advancing to the front of the platform, he made his acknowledgment of thanks and friendly attachment to his Masonic brethren before him and the large concourse of citizens assembled to honor his arrival among us, receiving their spontaneous cheerings of animated gratitude. The Masonic procession were individually received by a cordial tender of the hand from the General, then resumed their order of procession and marched to their table of refreshment prepared in much taste for this memorable event.

Anxious to preserve the smallest incident connected in our proceedings with this truly great man, our endeared friend and brother, I have further to mention that near tne close of our time of refreshment, Brothers Past Master Ph. Dickinson, the Junior Grand Warden Darcey, and the Most Eminent C. Ruckle, were appointed a committee to bear a communication to the General at his quarters, and also this sentiment of our meeting, viz: Our illustrious Brother La Fayette, the friend and companion in arms of our Grand Master, Washington. "Need I add, it was duly appreciated and met the loud plaudits of a highly respectable assemblage." At the hour of evening retirement, in conformity to the

offer (thankfully received) of escorting our guest, the Masonic procession resumed their order of march at an appointed time, and proceded to the hotel of reception, where they received our Brother La Fayette and waited upon him to his lodgings. The fellowship of good feelings, of gratitude, of deep felt intellectual enjoyment, of sincere and ardent Fraternal affection, distinguished the transactions and terminated happily the events of a day greatly interesting to those concerned and which I trust will hereafter be deemed highly important in the annals of Masonry.

J. B. MUNN,

Chatham, Nov. A. L. 5824. *G. M. of the Grand Lodge of N. J.*

Brother Hampton, from the committee to whom was referred so much of the Most Worshipful Grand Master's communication of last year which had not been acted upon, made report, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

Brother Baldwin reported,

That he had appropriated the donation of the Grand Lodge granted for the relief of Catharine Ramage, widow of a deceased brother.

Brother Hampton, from the committee appointed at the last Annual Communication to examine the foreign correspondence of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge for the previous year, made the following report, which was read, and the consideration thereof postponed to the next Grand Annual Communication:

That the documents referred to them, consisting of the minutes of the proceedings of most of the Grand Lodges of the several States of the Union, and of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, and also of Lower Canada, in the years 1822 and 23, and likewise of various communications from several of those Lodges, have been carefully and attentively considered. The committee have received with pleasure the evidences which those papers afford of the general flourishing condition of the Masonic Institution in the various parts of the country. It appears most of them are in a prosperous situation, and but few schisms or disputes have arisen to disturb the peace and harmony of the Craft. It is believed no period of time can be referred to, when, in this country the character of Masonry was respected or stood higher than at present. These circumstances are strongly calculated to awaken the pride of every Masonic bosom; but it should not be forgotten, that they ought also to call forth feelings of the deepest gratitude to that Great Being under whose kind and protecting Providence this result has been effected. The following subjects arisen out of the correspondence examined, have presented themselves to the committee, as calling for the particular attention of the

Grand Lodge; and it is to these subjects the committee had reference in their report made at the last Annual Communication.

I. The formation of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, to be located at Washington City, D. C. The Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, at a Communication held on the 6th of May, A. L. 5823, passed resolution inviting the renewed attention of the different Grand Lodges of the United States to this subject, and also appointed a committee to draft and transmit an address to each, in favor of the plan. This address is found with the papers referred to the committee. It was proposed that those Grand Lodges who should receive the address and resolutions in time to act upon them, and who should be in favor of the plan, should appoint delegates to meet in convention at Washington City, on the third Wednesday of February last, and those who should not receive them in time to act upon them, as requested, should choose delegates, to meet on the first Monday of March next, at the same place, in order to devise measures to carry into effect the proposed object. This subject has been discussed with great ability in several of the Grand Lodges of the United States, within the last two years. The plan was first proposed by the Grand Lodge of Georgia, in 1790, but not conceded to but by a very few of the other Grand Lodges. It has been agitated at several different periods since that time by different Grand Lodges, but with no better success.

A meeting, composed of several persons distinguished as Masons and as gentlemen of high character and station, was held in the Senate Chamber of the United States, on the 9th of March, 1822, by which the subject was again brought up for the consideration of the different Grand Lodges.

This Grand Lodge, after considering the subject upon the address and resolution forwarded to them by the distinguished committee of that meeting, passed a resolution at their Annual Communication, A. L. 5822, against acceding to the proposition, but agreeing to another plan, proposed by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, of holding a General Convocation, whenever it should appear to be the wish of the different Grand Lodges, at either of the cities of Philadelphia, New York, or Baltimore, and at such time as might be chosen for the purpose.

Several of the Grand Lodges of the United States, it appears by the papers referred to the committee, adopted a similar course; but nothing definite was done in relation to the latter proposal. The first subject is, however, "renewed" by the address of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, above mentioned. In that address, and the address of the committee of the meeting at Washington, in March, 1822, may be found the principal arguments used in favor, and in the reports of the different committees appointed upon the subject by the Grand Lodges of Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Kentucky, the reasons urged against the plan. Your committee, after a diligent investigation of the subject, and maturely

weighing the various arguments used upon both sides, are deeply impressed with the belief that the adoption of the plan is unadvisable and inexpedient. They can see no certain good which will result from its being carried into operation, and it may be fraught with imminent danger to the Institution of Masonry. Speaking for themselves, they are unwilling to run the venture. To adopt the eloquent language of the select committee of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, "the social charities of Masonic life are too dear to risk upon the trackless ocean of experiment." The committee therefore recommend to the Grand Lodge to adhere to their former resolution passed upon this subject.

II. It appears by the papers submitted to the committee that it has been the practice of the different Grand Lodges to report to each other printed lists of rejections, expulsions, and suspensions under their respective jurisdictions.

The committee are constrained, after serious deliberation, to recommend to the Grand Lodge the abolition of this practice, as a general rule, as productive of no good consequences, and being in many instances of injurious tendency. It is not of any benefit to the institution, nor does it appear to us to be congenial with its principles, that all the frailties, the imperfections, or the vices of an unworthy, or perhaps thoughtles brother, should be registered in a catalogue and deposited in our archives for the inspection of the members of the Fraternity of future ages, or that the tale of his dishonor should be spread through all parts of the country and told to all his fellow brethren. Is it not more congenial to the principles of our Order, to endeavor to soften down, to forgive and forget those frailties and imperfections, to cast over them the veil of charity, to endeavor by gentle means to bring back the deluded victim of vice to the path of duty, of honor, and of rectitude, than by exposing his follies or his infamy to destroy not only the incentive to repentance, but even the opportunity? We believe these are the genuine principles of Masonry, and they are at war with that uncharitable and unfeeling, that vindictive disposition, which is exercised in the practice above alluded to. We affirm the practice does no good. As it respects rejections, no Lodge should ever admit a stranger without testimonials of his character from the Lodges of the places where he had formerly resided; and one who, by a continued course of good conduct for the length of time which would justify a Lodge in neglecting to require this testimony, should not be prejudiced by a former rejection. In some flagrant cases of gross unmasonic conduct, and where there is no hope of reformation, it may perhaps be correct to publish the expulsion of the unworthy member, not only in the manner now done, but to the world, to avoid the reproach which would otherwise be attached to us as long as he was supposed to be a member; but we deprecate the practice as a general rule, to be exercised in every kind and grade of offence. The only benefit possibly derived from the present

practice is the aid afforded in detecting unworthy characters where they are not known; and this is comparatively slight, for if such a person applies for any of the privileges of Masonry, the same depravity which caused his expulsion would induce him to disregard those solemn obligations which would be called to his mind upon such an occasion, and he is then easily enabled to elude the check given by this practice by passing under a fictitious name.

We believe if the ancient checks and restraints are insufficient to prevent the imposition of unworthy characters upon us, it is useless to confide in modern inventions for that purpose. The same reasoning applies to suspensions. We would also observe upon this subject, that under the existing practice of this Grand Lodge, the benefit which might perhaps be derived in the manner above alluded to is not received by the Lodges of this State. In some of the States, the custom is to report the rejections, expulsions, and suspensions in every State, at the end of their minutes, and distribute them among the different Lodges; this Grand Lodge, however, only reports those cases which occur under their own jurisdiction, and those in other States can only be known by application to the files of the Grand Lodge.

III. The committee have been struck with the importance of having the minutes, communications, and other documents of the Grand Lodge, which are usually printed, all being done in the same manner and size. It would be advisable (if it could be effected) that a similar rule prevail in all the Grand Lodges in the United States, as the documents would be much more convenient to examine, when it is necessary, and also they could be bound in volumes, which is impossible in the manner they now are printed.

The committee in conclusion, beg leave to submit the following resolutions, in accordance with the opinions expressed in the above report:

1. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge adhere to their former resolution, passed at their Annual Communication, in 1822, against acceding to the plan of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, to be held at the City of Washington, D. C.

2. *Resolved*, That the present practice of reporting rejections, expulsions, and suspensions, in all cases, by the different Grand Lodges to each other, is unnecessary, and should be abolished; and this Grand Lodge will hereafter report no such rejection, expulsion, or suspension, until it has been decided in the Grand Lodge that the flagrancy of the particular case demands it.

3. *Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be directed to have the minutes of this Grand Lodge, and all printed communications hereafter made by this Grand Lodge printed in the same manner and size.

A petition was presented from Redford Jobs and others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted to them

to form a new Lodge, in the town of Cranbury, in the county of Middlesex, to be called "Cranbury Lodge, No. 47," which petition was read; whereupon, on due consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue, and that Brother Redford Jobs be the first Master, S. Disborough, first Senior Warden, and R. T. Purdy, first Junior Warden of said Lodge.

Brothers P. Alling, Ewing, and Cox were appointed a committee to settle the Grand Treasurer's accounts.

A petition was presented from E. P. Stiles and eleven others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted to them to form a new Lodge in the town of Bloomfield, in the county of Middlesex, to be called "Bloomfield Lodge, No. 48," which petition was read; whereupon, on due consideration it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue, and that Brother Simeon Baldwin be the first Master, Daniel D. Beach, first Senior Warden, and Joshua Smith, Junior Warden of said Lodge.

Brothers John Scott, Hopkins, and Palmer were appointed a Committee on Correspondence.

A petition was presented from Brother Robert Dennis and others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted to them to form a new Lodge at Rahway, in the county of Essex, to be called "La Fayette Lodge, No. 49," which petition was read; whereupon, on due consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue, and that Brother Robert Dennis be the first Master, D. Albertson, first Senior Warden, and Noah Silvers, first Junior Warden of said Lodge.

Brother Gustin presented the warrant of Augusta Lodge, praying leave to surrender the same, which was agreed to.

Brother Little presented the Warrant of Chatham Lodge, No. 33, together with the jewels, with the request that the same be accepted, which was agreed to.

The committee appointed to settle the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, made their report, which was agreed to.

Brother Rossell offered the following resolution, which was read and laid over to the next Grand Communication, viz:

Resolved, That so much of the tenth Section of the first Article of the Bye-Laws of this Grand Lodge as requires the payment of twenty-five

cents annually to the general Charity Fund by every member of a constituted Lodge under this jurisdiction be repealed, and that the sum of fifty cents annually be substituted therefor.

Resolved, That the Charity Dues of Paterson Lodge be remitted.

Ordered, That the sum of fifteen dollars be paid to Brother Joseph Y. Miller, for the use of Jackson Bassett, son of Isaac Bassett, of Sussex county, deceased.

Brother Isaac H. Hampton offers the following resolution, which was read and agreed to, viz:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to our Past Grand Master, J. B. Munn, for his able and zealous attention to the interests of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey during the time he has presided as Grand Master.

The Grand Lodge having gone through all the other business before them, proceeded to the election of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were duly elected, viz:

Samuel J. Read, Most Worshipful Grand Master.
John S. Darcy, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.
Hedge Thompson, Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden.
John Scott, Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden.
Richard L. Beatty, Right Worshipful Grand Secretary.
A. Parsons, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Secretary.
Thomas L. Woodruff, Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer.

All the Grand Officers elect being present, were severally invested and installed, according to ancient forms and ceremonies.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments, viz:

Rev. Thomas Pitts, Worshipful Grand Chaplain.
James Cushman, Worshipful Grand Lecturer.
John Mershon, Worshipful Grand Senior Deacon.
John Pierce, Worshipful Grand Junior Deacon.
Strange N. Palmer, Worshipful Grand Marshal.
Richard Eayre, Worshipful Grand Pursuivant.
Daniel Philips, Thomas Grant, Worshipful Grand Stewards.
David Wrighter, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge closed, &c.

ATTEST: RICHARD L. BEATTY,
Nov. 9th, A. L. 5824. *Grand Secretary.*

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1825.

Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the state of New Jersey, held at their hall in the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, the 8th day of November, A. L. 5825.

PRESENT.

M. W. SAMUEL J. READ, Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN S. DARCY, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. HEDGE THOMPSON, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOHN SCOTT, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. RICHARD L. BEATTY, Grand Secretary.
R. W. JOHN E. JEFFERS, Deputy Grand Secretary, p. t.
R. W. THOMAS L. WOODRUFF, Grand Treasurer.
STRANGE N. PALMER, Grand Marshal.
RICHARD EAYRE, Grand Pursuivant.
JOHN MERSHON, Senior Grand Deacon.
JOHN PIERCE, Junior Grand Deacon.
DANIEL PHILLIPS, THOS. GRANT, G. Stewards.
DAVID WRIGHTER, Grand Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

J. B. Munn, William McKissack, F. Davenport, William N. Jeffers, I. H. Hampton, Zachariah Rossel, Isaac Andruss, John E. Jeffers.

PAST MASTERS.

Joseph W. Scott, John Alling.

Representatives from the following Lodges attended, viz:

John Cox, M., Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.
Joseph Camp, M., St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
Thomas Cadwalader, G. D. Wall, J. Chambers, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
W. Beach, M., Harmony Lodge, No. 8.
William R. Fithien, M., J. B. Potter, S. W., Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
Elias I. Thompson, Joseph Dilks, Union Lodge, No. 12.
James Quimby, M., Stephen Fairchild, S. W., Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.
J. J. Sleeper, M., James Cushman, S. W., George Haywood, J. W., Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.
William Plummer, M., Salem Lodge, No. 19.
Amos Harrison, M., Union Lodge, No. 21.
Gideon Leeds, M., Hope Lodge, No. 26.

Imley Drake, M., Abner Park, S. W., David Park, TREAS., Mansfield Lodge, No. 31.

James Lloyd, Henry D. Polhemus, Shrewsbury Washington Lodge, No. 34.

Isaac Johnson, M., Jeremiah Stull, S. W., Pittstown Lodge, No. 38.

John Goslin, M., Allowaystown Lodge, No. 39.

Edward A. Darcey, Jerusalem Lodge, No. 40.

James Price, S. W., Washington Lodge, No. 41.

George W. Tucker, M., Tuckerton Lodge, No. 43.

Peter R. Walker, M., Camden Lodge, No. 45.

Joseph Dickinson, Jr., TREAS., Euclid Lodge, No. 46.

Redford Jobs, M., Samuel Disboroughs, S. W., Elijah Davis, Cranbury Lodge, No. 47.

Simeon Baldwin, M., Amzi Dodd, Bloomfield Lodge, No. 48.

Robert Dennis, M., La Fayette Lodge, No. 49.

VISITING BRETHREN.

Samuel F. Bradford, P. G. M. of Penn., John Dickinson, P. G. Glentworth, Trenton, No. 5, C. H. Valentine, Independence, No. 27, Daniel Swayze, David Green, Edward Smith, Salem, No. 19, H. Hunt, Cincinnati, No. 17, A. Reynolds, D. Kilburn, Union, No. 21, Samuel S. Doty, Cincinnati, No. 17, Jacob Wilson, Thomas Emerson, John J. McChesney, Washington, No. 34, William Newburn, Woodbury, No. 11, J. S. Nevius.

The Grand Lodge opened in ample form and proceeded to business.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following report, viz:

Brethren of the Grand Lodge:

Shortly after the closing of Grand Lodge in November, 5824, I received a communication from the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, inclosing certain resolution of that General Grand Lodge, relative to the erection of a monument at Mount Vernon, over the remains and to the memory of our illustrious Brother Washington, and requesting the co-operation and exertions of the several Grand Lodges and of the Masonic brethren throughout the United States, in the undertaking.

In the month of July last, I received another communication from the same Grand Lodge, enclosing certain other resolutions relative to the same subject and appointing trustees to join such other trustees as may be chosen by other Grand Lodges throughout the Union, who shall be directed to meet at the Western Masonic Hall, in the city of Washington, on the third Wednesday in Februay, A. D. 1827, at 6 o'clock, P. M., which trustees shall then and there form themselves into an association,

under the name of "The Trustees of the Masonic Fund for the erecting a Monument over the remains of Washington at Mount Vernon, and make such arrangements as they may deem expedient for erecting the same," and to report their proceedings to the different Grand Lodges who may have contributed to the object proposed.

I take great pleasure in laying before the Grand Lodge of New Jersey those communications and in expressing a hope that this Grand Lodge will cheerfully unite in so laudable an undertaking, and thereby assist in handing down to the latest posterity the many virtues that adorn the mind of our illustrious brother, the great and good Washington.

In consequence of the indisposition of our brother the Grand Secretary or from some other cause, the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, at their last meeting, have not been printed and sent to the subordinate Lodges. It will therefore be proper, if the Grand Lodge at this time should bestow some attention to this subject, that the subordinate Lodges may know what business has been transacted in the Grand Lodge, and that our correspondence with our sister Grand Lodges may be regularly kept up.

In the recess of the Grand Lodge, I issued a dispensation to our worthy Brother Joseph Warren Scott for the purpose of constituting and installing the new Lodge at Cranbury and the Lodge at Rahway, both in the county of Middlesex. Brother Scott has reported to me that he has performed that service and is happy to say, that from the orderly conduct and from the very respectable character of the officers and brethren of those new Lodges he has no doubt they will add lustre to the Masonic Institution.

Upon the application of a sufficient number of brethren, a dispensation was granted for the purpose of forming a new Lodge at Walpack, in the county of Sussex, and Brother Joseph Y. Miller, Worshipful Master of Harmony Lodge, was appointed to install the officers of this new Lodge, and he has reported that he has performed that service. This dispensation will expire at the present time, when it is expected the brethren of this new Lodge will apply to this Grand Lodge for a charter, agreeably to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge.

The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master has reported to me, that on St. John's day, the 27th of December last, with the assistance of a number of brethren in the vicinity of West Bloomfield, in the county of Essex, he attended at West Bloomfield and did constitute and install the officers of a new Lodge called Bloomfield Lodge, No, 48, to whom a warrant for that purpose was granted by this Grand Lodge at their last Communication. Brother Darcy has great pleasure in stating to the Grand Lodge that the exemplary conduct of the officers and brethren of this new Lodge is such that they will do credit to the Society to which they belong.

The correspondence of the several Grand Lodges which have been received by the Grand Secretary since the last Communication, will be laid before the Grand Lodge. SAMUEL J. READ,

November 8th, A. L. 5825. *Grand Master.*

Brothers William N. Jeffers, Joseph W. Scott and I. H. Hampton, were appointed a committee to settle the Grand Treasurer's accounts.

Brothers Andruss, Davenport and Rossel, were appointed a committee of Correspondence.

A petition was presented by Charles Hoffman and others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted to them to form a new Lodge in the township of Walpack, in the county of Sussex, to be called "Dove Lodge, No. 50," which petition was read; whereupon, on due consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue and that Brother Charles Hoffman be the first Master, Daniel Depue first Senior Warden, and Andrew VanCampen first Junior Warden of said Lodge.

Application was made by a number of the brethren of Independence Lodge, No. 29, established at Hackettstown, to have their warrant returned to them, and they restored to their former rank and privileges; whereupon, on due consideration, it was granted, and Brother Caleb H. Valentine be the Worshipful Master, Charles F. Lineback, the Senior Warden, and George Heberton, the Junior Warden of said Lodge.

A petition was presented from John Moore and others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant be granted to them to form a new Lodge, in the town of Johnsonburgh, in the county of Warren, to be called "Corinthian Lodge, No. 51," which petition was read; whereupon, on due consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue, and that John Moore be the first Master, George Mushback, first Senior Warden, and Daniel Camp, first Junior Warden of said Lodge.

Application was made by a number of the members of Hope Lodge, No. 26, praying to be restored to their former rank and privileges, on the payment of dues, and making due returns; which, on due consideration, was granted, and dues paid and returns made, to the satisfaction of the Grand Lodge.

Brother Rossell offered the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That the Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge take place for the future on the fourth day of October, in each and every year.

Which was received, and ordered to lie on the table for consideration at the next Grand Communication.

Brother Scott, from the committee on that subject, made the following report, which was read and agreed to, and the annexed resolutions severally adopted, viz.:

The committee to whom was referred so much of the communication of the Most Worshipful Grand Master as relates to the proposal from the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, to erect a monument over the grave of our distinguished brother, George Washington, first President of the United States, beg leave to report:

That they most cordially approve of the contemplated measure, and do recommend to this Grand Lodge to appropriate the sum of two hundred dollars to aid in that object, to be paid when the sum of ten thousand dollars shall be made up, the sum presumed to be necessary to accomplish this desirable object.

The committee, in further performance of the duties assigned them, offer to the Grand Lodge the following resolutions:

Resolved, That three trustees be nominated by the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, to be approved by the Grand Lodge, which trustees shall join with such others as shall be appointed by the respective Grand Lodges of the United States, and shall be directed to meet at the city of Washington, in the District of Columbia, on the third Wednesday of February, 5827, at six o'clock P. M., and then and there form themselves into an association, under the name of "The Trustees of the Masonic Fund for erecting a monument over the remains of Washington, at Mount Vernon." And the said trustees shall be authorized to make such arrangements as they may deem expedient for erecting the same; and they shall report their plan and proceedings to the different Grand Lodges respectively appointing them; and if a majority of those Lodges approve their plan, the before mentioned trustees are hereby authorized by this Grand Lodge, and empowered to erect the same.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge do hereby appropriate the sum of two hundred dollars to the object aforesaid.

Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master of this Grand Lodge be requested to transmit circular letters to the Grand Lodges of the United States, containing a copy of these resolutions, and the names of the trustees appointed on the part of this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master of this Grand Lodge be requested to transmit circular letters to the subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction, requestiug their co-operation and pecuniary aid in the objects before mentioned.

All which is respectfully submitted. J. W. Scott,
Trenton, November 8th, A. L. 5825. *Chairman of the Committee.*

The Most Worshipful Grand Master, in compliance with the above, appointed Past Grand Master J. B. Munn, Past Master Jos. W. Scott, and Past Master I. H. Hampton, a Committee of Correspondence on this subject, and trustees to control the above appropriation; which appointment was approved of by the Grand Lodge.

The committee appointed to examine the correspondence of this Grand Lodge during the last year, beg leave to make the following report:

That they have carefully examined the various communications made to this Grand Lodge within the last year, and do not find any subject which requires the immediate attention of the Grand Lodge, except the proposition submitted by the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, to erect a monument at the grave of Washington, at Mount Vernon, by the Masonic Fraternity, which subject has been submitted to a special committee. Your committee would call the attention of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, to a communication from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, under date of March 23d, 1825, respecting the conduct of Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and their intercourse with Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

Isaac Andruss,
Zachariah Rossell.

Which report was read and agreed to, and ordered to be printed.

Intelligence having been received respecting the death of our late Most Worshipful Grand Master Giles, it was unanimously

Resolved, That a committee be appointed by the present Most Worshipful Grand Master, to inquire in what manner this Grand Lodge shall express their sorrow at the death of their illustrious Past Grand Master.

Whereupon, Brothers Wm. N. Jeffers, J. W. Scott, and G. D. Wall, were appointed a committee for that purpose.

The officers and brethren of Jerusalem Lodge, No. 40, presented sundry specifications and charges against Solomon's

Lodge, No. 1, for un-masonic conduct (*pro-ut* the charges) which were ordered to be committed to Brothers Munn, Andruss, and Wm. Scott, with powers to examine witnesses and investigate the complaint with all possible dispatch, and report a statement of facts and the proceedings by them had, to the Most Worshipful Grand Master, who is hereby authorized and required to suspend their operations if he shall think proper, or in his opinion the good of Masonry requires it to be done, and also to make report to the next Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge.

The committee appointed to settle the Grand Treasurer's accounts, made their report, which was read and agreed to.

Brother William N. Jeffers, from the committee appointed for that purpose, reported the following testimonial of respect to the memory of the Most Worshipful General James Giles, Past Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, which was read, and unanimously agreed to, and ordered to be entered in the Record of the Society:

The annunciation of the decease of their late Most Worshipful Grand Master Giles, since the last Grand Communication, is heard by the Grand Lodge, with emotions of the most sincere regret, and the deepest sorrow for so afflicting a dispensation of Divine Providence. It has pleased the Grand Master of the Universe to extinguish his light, and to deprive us of the advantage of his labors and example here on earth. We bow with submission to the decrees of infinite Wisdom; but the most perfect recognition of the will of Almighty Power forbids not a tear to the memory of a departed friend, nor a tribute of respect to his exalted merit. The public virtues, the private worth, the intelligence, and the various valuable estimable qualities of the deceased, it would be superfluous to eulogise. His name will long live in the memory of his fellow citizens as a good man and a Mason. We all knew him—his death has spread a gloom throughout the Lodges in this State which cannot soon be dissipated, and has created a chasm in this Grand Lodge which cannot easily be forgotten. In his official capacity he was courteous but dignified, placid and conciliating, but inflexibly just; ever cherishing and inculcating the pure and benevolent principles of the Order, tenacious of adhering to its ancient landmarks; and his Masonic information, aided by his intellectual endowments and eloquence, enabling him continually to diffuse a blaze of light, imparting knowledge to all around him. In the rites and mysteries of the Craft it is unnecessary to say he was well

skilled, and in the practice of the virtues inculcated by its precepts few exceeded him. In the exercise of charity he was liberal but unostentatious, dispensing its beneffts to the helpless widow and orphan with a peculiar delicacy of manner the characteristic evidence of a benevolent and feeling heart. When they deplore the loss of their late Grand Master, they derive consolation from the hope and belief that, having terminated his labors here on earth and entered into a world of spirits, he has passed and received the approbating welcome of "well done, thou good and faithful servant," from his Divine Master, and has been received by him to a seat in the Holy Temple above, "not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens."

WILLIAM N. JEFFERS,
Chairman of the Committee.

Brother Jeffers moved the consideration of the report of the Committee of Correspondence of the last year, and, after some time consumed in debate thereon, the further consideration of said report was postponed.

Brother Woodruff, Rossell, and Cadwalader were appointed a committee to settle the accounts of the late Grand Secretary.

Resolved, That all Past Masters be hereafter permitted to vote as Past Masters, unless when representing a Lodge, then as such representatives only.

The following resolution was offered by Brother George W. Tucker (of Tuckerton Lodge, No. 46,) and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey, to modify their several Constitutions and Bye-Laws, so far as to admit licensed or ordained clergymen, of all denominations, without payment of any initiation or other dues.

The following resolution was also offered by Brother Tucker, and laid upon the table until the next Grand Communication:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge will in future dispense with the payment of any initiation or other dues from the several Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, for the initiation of clergymen of any denomination.

Which resolutions were ordered to be printed.

Brother Rossell's resolution, offered at the last Grand Annual Communication, to repeal so much of the tenth Section of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge as requires the payment of twenty-five cents annually to the General Charity Fund, by

every member of a Constituted Lodge under this jurisdiction, and substituting the sum of fifty cents therefor, to be paid annually, was postponed to the next Grand Communication for consideration.

Brother J. Y. Miller presented an account of disbursement for Jackson Bassett, amounting to $15.03¾; which was received and ordered to be filed.

Brother Hampton presented a receipt from Brother Jonathan Brooks, for twenty-five dollars charity of last year; which was received and ordered to be filed, and, on motion duly made and seconded,

Resolved, That whereas the annual sum of twenty-five dollars having been appropriated to and for the use and benefit of Brother Jonathan Brooks, at the last Grand Communication, until he should have received one hundred dollars (being twenty-five dollars per year for four years), and the late Grand Secretary having neglected to enter the same,

Ordered, That the amount of twenty-five dollars be paid annuatly, until the purport of that resolution and appropriation be fulfilled, and that this be entered *nunc pro tunc*.

Ordered, That the sum of thirty dollars be paid by the Grand Treasurer to Brother William Newbern, as charity, for his relief.

Ordered, That the sum of twenty dollars be patd to Brother Baldwin, to be appropriated for the relief of Brother John McDonald.

Ordered, That the sum of fifteen dollars be paid to Brother Harrison, to be appropriated for the relief of Mrs. Catherine Ramage.

Ordered, That the sum of fifteen dollars be paid to Brother Dilks, to be appropriated for the relief of Mrs. Elizabeth Simson.

Ordered, That the sum of fifteen dollars be paid to Brother Beach, to be appropriated for the relief and use of Brother Jackson Bassett.

Ordered, That the sum of fifteen dollars be paid to Brother Cadwalader, to be appropriated for the relief of the Widow Drew.

On motion of Brother John E. Jeffers, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be required to correct the minutes of the two last years, and to have them fairly transcribed and recorded, and to have an extract of the minutes and proceedings of last year, together with an extract of the proceedings of the present year, published in one pamphlet.

The Grand Lodge having gone through all the other business

before them, proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were duly elected, viz:

Samuel J. Read, Most Worshipful Grand Master.

John S. Darcy, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.

Hedge Thompson, Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden.

John Scott, Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden.

Zachariah Rossel, Right Worshipful Grand Secretary.

John E. Jeffers, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Secretary.

Thomas L. Woodruff, Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer.

All the Grand Officers elect being present, were severally invested and installed, according to the ancient forms and ceremonies, &c.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments, viz.:

Rev. Jonathan Brooks, Worshipful Grand Chaplain.

Strange N. Palmer, Worshipful Grand Marshal.

James Cushman, Worshipful Grand Lecturer.

Richard Eayre, Worshipful Grand Pursuivant.

John Mershon, Worshipful Grand Senior Deacon.

John Pierce, Worshipful Grand Junior Deacon.

Daniel Phillips, Thomas Grant, Worshipful Grand Stewards.

David Wrighter, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge closed, &c.

ATTEST: ZACHARIAH ROSSEL,

Nov. 8th, A. L. 5825. *Grand Secretary.*

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1826.

Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the state of New Jersey, held at their hall, in the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, the 14th day of November, A. L. 5826.

PRESENT.

M. W. JOHN S. DARCY, Grand Master, p. t.
R. W. HEDGE THOMPSON, Deputy Grand Master, p. t.
R. W. ISAAC H. HAMPTON, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. WM. N. JEFFERS, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOHN E. JEFFERS, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. THOMAS L. WOODRUFF, Grand Treasurer.
JONATHAN BROOKS, Grand Chaplain.
JAMES CUSHMAN, Grand Lecturer.
STRANGE N. PALMER, Grand Marshal.
JOHN MERSHON, Grand Senior Deacon.
WM. HAYWOOD, Grand Junior Deacon, p. t.
DAN'L PHILIPS, G. P. GLENTWORTH, G. Stewards.
DAVID WRIGHTER, Grand Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.—Wm. McKissack, Isaac H. Hampton, William N. Jeffers.

PAST MASTERS.—Joseph W. Scott, John Alling, Daniel Babbitt.

Representatives from the following Lodges attended, viz.:

John Cox, Daniel Sargeant, Joseph Doty, Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.

Andrew Gaddis, Samuel McChesney, Hugh Cammack, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

Charles Burroughs, John Mershon, Charles M. Wells, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

William Beach, Hiram Munson, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.

James B. Potter, Enos F. Randolph, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

James S. Nevius, F. S. Vanarsdallen, Union Lodge, No. 12.

Andrew Parsons, Paterson Orange Lodge, No. 13.

Charles Sitgreaves, Parmenis Sherman, Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.

James Quimby, Stephen Fairchilds, Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.

James Cushman, George Haywood, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.

William Plummer, Ward Willson, Salem Lodge, No. 19.

Amos A. Harrison, Union Lodge, No. 21.

John Ogden, Jr., Friendship Lodge, No. 22.

Gideon Leeds, Edward B. Swayze, Hope Lodge, No. 26.

C. H. Valentine, C. F. Lineback, Independence Lodge, No. 29.
Abner Parke, Lambert Bowman, Mansfield Lodge, No. 31.
James D. Westcott, Cedarville Lodge, No. 35.
Isaac Johnson, Jeremiah Stull, Jacob Wick, William Loper, Pittstown Lodge, No. 38.
John Gosling, Allowaystown Lodge, No. 39.
Freeman Cole, Jerusalem Lodge, No. 40.
Benjamin W. Tucker, Washington Lodge, No. 41.
Ebenezer Tucker, Tuckerton Lodge, No. 43.
Timothy C. Ward, Peter Speer, Essex Lodge, No. 44.
Hugh C. Heyl, Camden Lodge, No. 45.
Joseph Dickerson, Jr., Euclid Lodge, No. 46.
Charles Carson, Cranbury Lodge, No. 47.
Daniel D. Beach, Amzi Dodd, Aaron E. Ballard, Bloomfield Lodge, No. 48.
James Smith, La Fayette Lodge, No. 49.
John Moore, Jacob Armstrong, Corinthian Lodge, No. 51.

VISITING BRETHREN.

J. E. Ruckle,
Benjamin Archer,
John T. Gray,
William McFarlin,
Jonathan B. Dunham,
Israel L. Coriell,
Daniel C. Croxall,
Joseph Moore,
William Newburn,
Elijah Booth,
John Torbett,
——— Arrowsmith,
Rev. George Patterson, Norfolk Lodge, No. 1, Virginia,
James Webster, No. 2, Phila.,
Xenophon J.Maynard,
I. E. Moore, No. 51, Philadelphia,
D. Hutchinson,
F. Whitlack, Galway, No. 263, N. Y. I. W. Nicklin.

The Grand Lodge opened in ample form and proceeded to business.

The following communication and report of the Most Worshipful Grand Master was read, viz:

MOUNT HOLLY, November 13th, 1826.

My Dear Sir:

In consequence of some recent occurrence which have taken place in my family, I shall be deprived of the pleasure of meeting at this time with my Masonic brethren in Grand Lodge. You of course will take the chair, and I wish you in your communication to the Grand Lodge, to observe that in accordance with their resolution at the last Communication, I have transmitted to the several Grand Lodges in the United States, copies of the resolutions of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey relative to the erection of a monument at Mount Vernon, over the remains

of the illustrious Washington. And have also transmitted copies of the same resolutions to the subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, requesting their aid in the contemplated undertaking. I also addressed a letter to the Worshipful Master of Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16, on the certain resolutions of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, complaining of the conduct of Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16; but in the hurry of sending my communications to the several Lodges, this letter I find by opening my Masonic papers this day, has not been sent. I regret it should have so happened, as the subject is of great importance to the Craft. It is probable that the Master of this Lodge will be with you and I would suggest for your better judgment, whether it would not be proper to submit the communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to the consideration of this Grand Lodge. It will be an admonition to all the representatives of the subordinate Lodges, and the conduct of Olive Branch Lodge may be enquired into and explained in such manner as to satisfy this Grand Lodge and that of Pennsylvania that they have acted with propriety. I merely suggest this and leave it for your better judgment. I enclose the resolutions of Pennsylvania. It has always been my opinion that it would be advantageous to the Grand Lodge, that there should be frequent changes in the officers. This would tend to create a laudable emulation among the Craft to fit and qualify themselves for the discharge of the various duties as well in as out of the Lodge. Under this impression you will be pleased when the election of officers takes place, to present to the brethren my sincere thanks for the honor they have conferred on me in electing and re-electing me to the chair of the Grand Lodge, and assuring them that the recollection of this honor and their favorable opinion of me will ever be to me a source of pleasure to be destroyed only by time, and that I beg leave to decline being considered a candidate for re-election. With my best wishes for your health and happiness, and that of the whole Masonic family, I am, my dear brother,

Truly and sincerely yours, &c.,

Gen. John S. Darcy, Samuel J. Read.
Deputy G. Master of the G. Lodge of N. J.

The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master made the following report, viz:

Most Worshipful:

I most respectfully beg leave to report, that early in January last, I repaired to Johnsonsburgh, in the county of Warren, and with the assistance of the Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden and other brothers, publicly installed the officers of the new Lodge in that place, by the name of Corinthian Lodge, No. 51. I also installed the officers of Dove Lodge, No. 50, a new Lodge at Walpack, in the county of Sussex, both of which

Lodges were authorized at the last Grand Communication. I also installed the officers of Independence Lodge, No. 29, at Hackettstown, and Hope Lodge, No. 26, at Hope, in the county of Warren, both of which Lodges had their warrants returned at the last Grand Communication.

Upon the application of a sufficient number of brethren who were suitably recommended, a dispensation was granted for the purpose of forming a new Lodge at Belvidere, in the county of Warren, by the name of Warren Lodge, and the officers were duly installed.

In March last, an application was made by a sufficient number of brethren, for a dispensation, for the purpose of forming a new Lodge at Camptown, in the county of Essex, by the name of Franklin Lodge, which application was granted upon the recommendation of St. John's Lodge, No. 2. The Lodges working by dispensation, will no doubt apply for warrants at the next meeting of the Grand Lodge.

On the fifteenth day of April last, I attended at Camptown and installed the officers of Franklin Lodge. The ceremonies were performed in public, and we were favored with a very able and appropriate address from our worthy Past Grand Master, Brother Munn.

In closing the above communication, I am happy to say that the several Lodges mentioned appear to have commenced under very favorable auspices, and have no doubt they will add lustre to the Order of Masonry.

Most respectfully yours, &c.,

M. W. Samuel J. Read. John S. Darcy.

Brothers Palmer, Smith and Allen, were appointed a committee to settle the Grand Treasurers's accounts.

Brothers Dodd, Beach and Westcott, were appointed a committee to examine correspondence and make report thereon.

The communication from the Grand Lodge in Pennsylvania to this Grand Lodge, respecting Olive Branch Lodge, was referred to Joseph W. Scott, Andrew Parsons and George Green.

The resolution of Brother Rossell respecting the time of meeting of the Grand Lodge, was taken up and, after some debate, was indefinitely postponed.

The resolution offered by Brother G. W. Tucker at the last Grand Communication, to dispense with the payment of the initiatiation dues from the several Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge for the initiation of clergymen of any de nomination, was unanimously agreed to.

The resolution of Brother Rossell, offered at the last Grand Communication, respecting the Charity Fund dues, was disagreed to.

The committee appointed at the last Grand Communication to settle the accounts of the late Grand Secretary, prayed further time, which was granted.

The committee appointed to investigate the specifications and charges presented by Jerusalem Lodge, No. 40, against Solomon's Lodge, No. 1, reported,

That the specifications and charges were not in anywise supported, and requested to be discharged. The Grand Lodge granted their request and hereby order and declare that Solomon's Lodge, No. 1, be restored and is hereby reinstated and restored to their former rank and privilege, to all intents and purposes, as though no charges or specifications had been made.

A petition was presented by George Green, John Hutchings, Jacob Somers and others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant be granted to them to form a new Lodge in the town of Belvidere, in the county of Warren, to be called "Warren Lodge, No. 52," which petition was read; whereupon, on due consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue and that George Green be the first Master, John Hutchings the first Senior Warden, and Jacob Somers the first Junior Warden of the said Lodge.

A petition was presented by Joseph W. Camp and others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant be granted to them to form a new Lodge in the village of Camptown, in the county of Essex, to be called "Franklin Lodge, No. 53," which petition was read; whereupon, on due consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue and that Joseph W. Camp be the first Master, Allen Osborn the first Senior Warden, and Lyman S. Averill the first Junior Warden of said Lodge.

A petition was presented by Imlay Drake and others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant be granted to them to form a new Lodge in the village of New Hampton, in the county of Hunterdon, to be called "Lebanon Lodge, No. 54," which petition was read; whereupon, on due consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue and that Imlay Drake be the first Master, Abner Parke the first Senior Warden, and Joseph W. Dissenberry the first Junior Warden of said Lodge.

The committee appointed to settle the Grand Treasurer's accounts made their report, which was read and agreed to.

Brother Isaac H. Hampton presented a receipt from Jonathan Brooks, for twenty-five dollars for charity, which was received and ordered to be filed.

Brother Amos A. Harrison presented a receipt from Catherine Ramage, for fifteen dollars for charity, which was ordered to be filed.

DONATIONS.

Ordered, That the sum of thirty dollars be paid by the Grand Treasurer to Brother Wm. Newburn, as charity, for his relief.

Ordered, That the sum of twenty dollars be paid to Brother Palmer, to be appropriated to the relief of Ann Myers.

Ordered, That the sum of twenty dollars be paid to Brother J. S. Darcy, to be appropriated to the relief of the Widow Burroughs.

Ordered, That the sum of thirty dollars be paid to the Grand Secretary, for correcting the minutes and proceedings of this Grand Lodge for the years 5823 and 5824, and for transcribing and recording the same.

Ordered, That the expenses of the Rev. J. Brooks, Grand Chaplain, for attending the Grand Lodge at the present Grand Communication, be paid by the Grand Treasurer.

Brother Joseph Y. Miller presented an account of disbursements for Jackson Bassett, amounting to seventeen dollars and twenty-five cents, which was read, examined, and disagreed to.

Resolved, That Brothers Enos F. Randolph, John E. Jeffers, and James D. Westcott, Jr., be a committee to inquire into the condition of Dennis Creek Lodge, No. —, and Franklin Lodge, No. 37, and see that the by-laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge respecting the same be enforced, and to procure from the said Lodges their warrants, together with their books of minutes, jewels and papers, and all else appertaining thereto, and make report and return of the same to this Grand Lodge, at the next Grand Communication; and the said Lodges are hereby ordered to render up the same unto them or any of them when demanded.

Resolved, That Brothers Burroughs, J. W. Scott, and Hunt, be a committee to inquire into the condition of Hiram Lodge, No. 25, and see that the by-laws and regulations of the Grand Lodge respecting the same be enforced, and to procure from said Lodge their warrant, books of minutes, jewels and papers, and all else appertaining thereto, and make report and return of the same to this Grand Lodge, at their next Grand Communication; and the said Lodge is hereby ordered to render up the same to them or any of them when demanded.

A petition was presented by the members of La Fayette Lodge, No. 49, praying leave to have their meetings in Rahway,

Essex county, or at Woodbridge, Middlesex county; which upon due consideration, was granted.

The committee appointed to examine the correspondence of the Grand Lodge, made the following report, which was read and agreed to:

The committee appointed to examine the correspondence of the Grand Lodge for the past year, respectfully report:—that they have given the papers submitted to them all the consideration which the short time allowed them would enable them to do.

Those documents consist principally of the printed journals of the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of the several United States and of the Canadas.

The committee notice with pleasure that most of the Grand Lodges of the United States have adopted resolutions in favor of the erection of a monument at Mount Vernon, over the remains of our illustrious countryman and brother, Washington, similar to those passed by this Grand Lodge. The only Grand Lodges they have discovered which have positively refused to join in this measure, are those of the States of Delaware and Maryland. The refusal of these Grand Lodges, it seems from their proceedings, is not predicated upon any opinion of impropriety in the plan itself, but upon the impression that the Congress of the United States are pledged to erect such or a similar monument at the expense of the nation, by their resolutions of ——— of ———, 1799, and the expectation that they will soon redeem such pledge. The force of this argument as absolving the Masons of the United States from the duty of erecting such testimonial of respect to the distinguished virtues and talents of our illustrious brother, is not felt by this committee.

The committee would respectfully invite the renewed attention of this Grand Lodge to the report of the Committee of Correspondence of 1824, which it appears has not as yet been definitely acted upon by this Grand Lodge, and would also respectfully recommend to the Grand Lodge the adoption of the several resolutions reported by that Committee, annexed to that report, viz:

1. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge adhere to its former resolution, passed at the Annual Communication of 1822, against acceding to the plan of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, to be held at the city of Washington, D. C.

2. *Resolved*, That the present practice of reporting rejections, expulsions and suspensions, *in all cases*, by the different Grand Lodges to each other, is unnecessary, and should be abolished, and that this Grand Lodge will hereafter report no such rejection, expulsion or suspension until it has been decided in Grand Lodge that the flagrancy of the case demands it.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be directed to have the minutes of this Grand Lodge, and all printed communications hereafter made by this Grand Lodge, printed in the same manner and size.

The committee have not discovered any other matters in the papers submitted to their inspection which appeared to call for the particular attention of the Grand Lodge at this time.

Nov. 14, 5826.

AMZI DODD,
JAMES D. WESTCOTT, JR.,
DANIEL D. BEACH.

Brother Parsons, of the committee to whom was referred the communication from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to this Grand Lodge, made the following report, which was read and unanimously agreed to:

The committee to whom the communication from the Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the State of Pennsylvania was referred, beg leave to report, that from an examination of the complaint set forth in said communication, which is, that a person who was a resident in the State of Pennsylvania, was admitted into the Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16, situate at Phillipsburgh, in the State of New Jersey, and that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania object to any such admission. Also that the said Grand Lodge make complaint as to the course pursued by Lodges in the State of Maryland, in preferring the degrees of Past Masters without reference to recommendation or payment of fees. Your committee are of opinion that as Masonry is universal, and is not confined within the narrow limits of a town, county, or State, that it would be departing from the well known principles of the Order to make any alteration at this time, and that the same rules can only be observed in reference to the admission of candidates residing in one State into Lodges within the bounds of another State, as is observed with neighboring Lodges in the same State, and is the case in this instance. The committee are not in possesaion of any information as to the application or rejection of Geo. W. Deshler, by the Easton Lodge, they see no reason of complaint by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, except that his character may not have been such as to have entitled him to admission. The committee would remark upon the subject, that Lodges in Philadelphia, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, have heretofore upon several occasions, admitted as members persons who resided in this State, in the vicinity of respectable Lodges, and when well apprised of such circumstance. If it is improper, the restriction from so doing should be by convention between the two Grand Lodges, and they would recommend the adoption of measures calculated to result in such arrangement.

Your committee fully agree with the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, that it is improper for the Lodges within the jurisdiction of the State of

Maryland to confer any degrees different from what has been generally adopted by Lodges in other States, and the committee recommend that the Most Worshipful Grand Master of this Lodge be authorized to confer with the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Pennsylvania on the subject, and make such arrangement as he may judge most proper to counteract the evil complained of.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. Parsons,
J. W. Scott,
George Green,
Committee.

The Grand Lodge having gone through all the business before them proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were elected, viz:

Most Worshipful John S. Darcy, Grand Master.
Right Worshipful Hedge Thompson, Deputy Grand Master.
" " Isaac H. Hampton, Senior Grand Warden.
" " Andrew Parsons, Junior Grand Warden.
" " Zachariah Rossell, Grand Secretary.
" " John E. Jeffers, Deputy Grand Secretary.
" " Thomas L. Woodruff, Grand Treasurer.

All the Grand Officers being present were severally invested and installed according to the ancient forms and ceremonies, &c.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments, to wit:

Worshipful John Mershon, Senior Grand Deacon.
" Strange N. Palmer, Junior Grand Deacon.
" Rev. Jonathan Brooks, Grand Chaplain.
" James Cushman, Grand Lecturer.
" Joseph Warren Scott, Grand Visitor.
" Daniel Babbitt, Grand Marshal.
" William Hunt, Grand Pursuivant.
" Daniel Phillips, Grand Steward.
" George P. Glentworth, Grand Steward.
Brother David Wrighter, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge closed, &c.

Attest: ZACHARIAH ROSSELL,
November, A. L. 5826. *Grand Secretary.*

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1827.

Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, of the State of New Jersey, held at their Hall, in the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, the thirteenth day of November, A. L. 5827.

PRESENT.

M. W. JOHN S. DARCY, Grand Master.
R. W. SAMUEL J. READ, Deputy Grand Master, p. t.
R. W. ISAAC H. HAMPTON, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. ANDREW PARSONS, Grand Junior Warden.
R. W. ZAC. ROSSELL, Grand Secretary.
R. W. JOHN E. JEFFERS, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. THOMAS L. WOODRUFF, Grand Treasurer.
W. JONATHAN BROOKS, Grand Chaplain.
W. JOSEPH W. SCOTT, Grand Visitor.
W. JAMES CUSHMAN, Grand Lecturer.
W. DANIEL BABBITT, Grand Marshal.
W. WILLIAM HUNT, Grand Pursuivant.
W. JOHN MERSHON, Grand Senior Deacon.
W. ED. H. SWAIZE, Grand Junior Deacon, p. t.
W. DANIEL PHILLIPS, Grand Steward.
W. GEORGE P. GLENTWORTH, Grand Steward.
BR. DAVID WRIGHTER, Grand Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.—Samuel J. Read, Wm. N. Jeffers.

PAST MASTERS.—Wm. Scott, El. A. Darcy, Joseph Y. Miller, J. D. Westcott, Jr.

Representatives from the following Lodges attended viz:

Joseph Doty, S. W., Solomon's Lodge, No. 1.

P. Alling, W. M., p. t., Jas. P. Thompson, S. W., p. t., Asa Tory, J. W., p. t., St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

Samuel McClurg, P. Dickinson, C. M. Wells, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

Lyman Edwards, W. M., Harmony Lodge, No. 8.

James B. Potter, W. M., E. F. Randolph, S. W., Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

Jas. S. Nevius, W. M., F. S. Vanarsdallen, S. W., Union Lodge, No. 12.

Edward P. Banks, W. M., Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.

Wm. McFarlan, W. M., p. t., James Clark, S. W., Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.

James Cushman, W. M., Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.

Edward Smith, W. M., Richard S. Field, S. W., P. T., R. P. Thompson, J. W., P. T., Salem Lodge, No. 19.
Amos A, Harrison, W. M., Union Lodge, No. 21.
Samuel Humphrey, W. M., Sharptown Lodge, No. 32.
Jeremiah Stull, W. M., Pittstown Lodge, No. 35.
Zaccheus Ray, W. M., Allowaystown Lodge, No. 39.
Jona. R. Dunham, S. W., P. T., Jerusalem Lodge, No. 40.
James Price, W. M., Washington Lodge, No. 41.
John W. Mickle, W. M., Camden Lodge, No. 45.
Alexander Dickerson, W. M., Joseph Dickerson, Euclid Lodge, No. 46.
Redford Job, W. M., Samuel Disbrow, S. W., Cranbury Lodge, No. 47.
Daniel D. Beach, W. M., John Shann, Bloomfield Lodge, No. 48.
George Mushback, W. M., Corinthian Lodge, No. 51.
Ephraim Camp, W. M., P. T., Warren Lodge, No. 52.
Jos. W. Camp, W. M., Franklin Lodge, No. 53.

VISITING BRETHREN.

William L. Johnson,	Andrew Snowhill,	Wm. Newburn,
Samuel S. Doty,	J. E. Ruckle,	X. J. Maynard,
Daniel Hutchinson,	William Kerwood,	Charles Sitgreaves,
John Dickinson,	Joseph E. Moore,	Daniel C. Croxall.
Thomas Cadwalader,		

The Grand Lodge opened in ample form, and proceeded to business.

The following communication and report of the Most Worshipful Grand Master was read, viz:

Brethren of the Grand Lodge:

While attending the last Grand Communication, I solicited and received proposals from our Grand Lecturer (Brother Cushman) on the subject of his visiting the several Lodges under this jurisdiction, and endeavoring to establish a uniform and most approved mode of Work. I very soon thereafter communicated to them his proposals, and that the expense attending the undertaking must necessarily be borne by the Lodges electing to receive his services. A large proportion of the Lodges have thought proper to employ Brother Cushman, and I am happy to state advisedly on the subject, that his lectures have been eminently useful.

In November last, Worshipful Brother John E. Ruckle (being duly authorized) attended at Camptown, in the county of Essex, and installed the officers of the new Lodge in that place, called Franklin Lodge, No. 53. I regret to state that in a few days thereafter, the Academy in that place, the upper room of which had, by the members of Franklin Lodge, at a very considerable expense, been fitted up as a Lodge room, was accidentally destroyed by fire, together with their warrant and all their

furniture and clothing except the officers' jewels. The brethren of said Lodge having resolved to rebuild their Lodge room, and resume their labors, and having no warrant, at their request, a dispensation was granted, and with the consent of St. John's Lodge, they were authorized to hold their meetings in the town of Newark, in the room occupied by St. John's Lodge, until their building was completed, or until the meeting of the Grand Lodge.

I would beg leave to recommend to this Grand Lodge a renewal of the charter of Franklin Lodge, free of expense, and that they be released from any expense on account of the dispensation granted them in December last, also that an appropriation from the funds of this Grand Lodge be made in their favor. Upon the application of twenty-one brethren, duly recommended by St. John's Lodge, No. 2, in the town of Newark, a dispensation was granted for the purpose of forming a new Lodge, in the town of Newark, to be called the Newark Lodge. The officers there were installed in due form. Also upon the application of a sufficient number of brethren, duly recommended by Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17, a dispensation was granted for forming a new Lodge at Basking Ridge, in the county of Somerset. The officers thereof were duly installed. The dispensations to the brethren of Newark and Basking Ridge were granted under the expectation that they would apply to this Grand Lodge for charters, agreeably to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge.

At the request of the members of the Union Lodge, No. 21, I attended on the last St. John's Day, at Orange. in the county of Essex, and with the assistance of Brother Munn, Past Grand Master, Brother Andruss, Past Junior Grand Warden, Brother Parsons, Junior Grand Warden, and other Brethren, publicly laid the corner stone of a new Masonic edifice now completed by the enterprising members of Union Lodge. On this occasion a very able and appropriate address was delivered by Brother Amzi Dodd, Esquire.

In April last, I received a communication from the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York, relative to one he had received from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. The deputation from the Grand Lodge of New York was received in due form by officers of this Grand Lodge at New Brunswick. JOHN S. DARCY, *G. M.*

Nov. 13*th*, 1827.

The committee appointed at the last Grand Annual Communication to inquire into the state of Dennis Creek Lodge, No. 36, and Franklin Lodge, No. 37, and to procure the warrants, papers, &c., of said Lodges, respectfully report:

That as to Franklin Lodge, it appears by the minutes of said Lodge, that on the twenty-fifth day of July, 1820, it was resolved by a majority of

the members then present, to forthwith surrender their warrant to the Grand Lodge, and that Franklin Lodge has not been opened since that day. The warrant, book of minutes, and most of the papers of the Lodge, have however remained in the custody of the persons living in the house in which the Lodge was held at the time. The committee have procured the warrant, By-Laws, book of Minutes, and a number of papers relative to the accounts of the Lodge, and have deposited them with the Grand Secretary. They are in a very confused state. The Treasurer's book, jewels, aprons, bible, and other Masonic books formerly owned by the Lodge, and the seal of the Lodge, could not be procured by the committee. A letter from David Reed, Esq., formerly a member of the Lodge and to whom we applied for information on the subject (annexed hereto) will explain the causes thereof. The committee find by the record of the Grand Lodge, that no return from Franklin Lodge has been made since ————————, 181—. It appears that a considerable amount which cannot be exactly ascertained by the committee, was due the Grand Lodge at the time the resolution of the Franklin to surrender the charter was adopted.

The committee find that Dennis Creek Lodge, No. 36, surrendered their warrant on the 9th of November, 5819, through the hands of Grand Master Giles. They have, however, procured sundry papers, a book of minutes, the Treasurer's book of said Lodge, and the seal of said Lodge, (which they found in the possession of an individual in Cape May) and which they have also deposited with the Grand Secretary. The jewels, apron, &c., could not be procured. A letter from Samuel Matthews, Esq., formerly a member of that Lodge, and to whom we applied for aid, will show the causes. It appears the last return of the said Lodge was made in 1819. The committee recommend that the warrant of Franklin Lodge be accepted, and inasmuch as it will be attended with much difficulty to procure payment of the arrears due the Grand Lodge from said Lodge, that the same be remitted: but that the said committee be continued or another appointed with power to procure the seal of the said Lodge and other papers and books which they apprehend have not yet been received.

The committee recommend that the claim of the Grand Lodge to the jewels, aprons, &c., of Dennis Creek Lodge be transferred to the new Lodge about to be constituted in Cape May, and in case said Lodge is not constituted, that the same be received by a committee for the Grand Lodge. The course to be pursued with respect to the jewels, aprons, &c., of Franklin Lodge, they submit to the consideration of the Grand Lodge.

Enos F. Randolph,
John E. Jeffers,
James D. Westcott, Jr.
Committee.

DENNIS CREEK, October 25th, 1827.

DEAR SIR:

I have made inquiries as you requested as to the papers, &c., of Dennis Creek Lodge, No. 36. I now send you all that I can find with the seal of said Lodge. The Jewels and aprons used by the Lodge never belonged to it, but were procured by one or two persons who loaned them to that Lodge, and who never having received payment from them, now retain them as their own with the consent of the former members of the Lodge. It is understood that they will give the said jewels to the new Lodge about to be established in the county in a short time. It is believed the warrant was surrendered to the Grand Lodge through General Giles, the former Grand Master of the state, in 1818 or '19. If not so and if found, the same with all other papers, &c., shall be sent to the Grand Lodge. If anything else is wanting I shall be happy to render any services in my power.

Yours, &c.,

SAMUEL MATTHEWS.

J. D. Westcott, Jr., John E. Jeffers and Enos F. Randolph.

To Enos F. Randolph, John E. Jeffers, and James D. Westcott, Jr.

DEAR SIRS.—As you requested I have made inquiries respecting Millville Lodge and have procured and now send you the book of minutes, warrant and other papers of the said Lodge. The jewels of the said Lodge were sold by the said Lodge before the vote was taken to surrender the warrant in order to pay their debts, being rent, &c., and of course cannot be sent to the Grand Lodge.

If any other papers, &c. are found, they shall be forwarded and I will render any other services in my power in the matter.

Respectfully,

DAVID REED.

Which was read together with the letters annexed, and report agreed to, and Brothers William R. Fithians, David Whitecar, and Jeremiah S. Nixon, appointed a committee to carry into effect so much of said report as relates to Dennis Creek Lodge, No. 36, and investigate the right of property to the jewels, aprons, &c., of Franklin Lodge, No. 37, and if found to belong to this Grand Lodge, to procure the same of Brother Reed and make report and return thereof to this Grand Lodge at the next Grand Communication.

Brothers Westcott, Babbitt and Mushbach, were appointed a committee to settle the accounts of the Grand Treasurer.

Brother Read offered the following resolution, which was read and agreed to, viz:

Resolved, That a committee of three members of this Grand Lodge be apppointed at their annual Commuincation, to be designated a Standing Committee of Correspondence, whose duty it shall be to inspect and examine the communications addressed to this Grand Lodge by the Grand Lodges of our sister states, and to report to this Grand Lodge at their next Communication, such matters as in their opinion require to be acted upon at the sitting of the Grand Lodge, and it shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to put into the hands of this committee such communications by him received.

Whereupon Brothers Rossell, Woodruff, and Cushman were appointed.

A petition was presented by James Hedden and others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant be granted them to form a new Lodge in the town of Newark, in the county of Essex, to be called Newark Lodge, No. 55, which petition was read, as also a remonstrance containing certain specifications and charges from St. John's Lodge, No. 2, against granting the same; whereupon, on due investigation and consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue and that James Hedden be the first Master, Moses Smith the first Senior Warden, and James Black the first Junior Warden of said Lodge.

Brother Halsey offered the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to examine into the matters of difference between St. John's Lodge, No. 2, and Newark Lodge, and that they make report to the next annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, and that the said committee do also inquire into and report to the Grand Lodge aforesaid, as to the situation of the right of property, of the room, and property claimed by St. John's Lodge, in the town of Newark, and the terms and means by which the same was built, and that the said committee be authorized to require inspection of the minutes and resolutions of St. John's Lodge in relation to the building of said Lodge room, and that the expense of the committee, &c., be mutually paid between St. John's Lodge, No. 2, and the Newark Lodge, and that the remonstrance of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, and all other papers relative thereto, be referred to such committee:

Which resolution was agreed to and Past Grand Master S. J. Reed, John W. Mickle, Joseph Y. Miller, were duly appointed said committee.

Brothers Hampton and Scott, trustees of the Masonic fund for

erecting a monument over the remains of Washington at Mount Vernon, made a verbal report in part of their proceedings, and prayed further time to complete the same; whereupon it was

Resolved, That they have until the next annual Grand Communication, and that the Grand Secretary, Deputy Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, be appointed a committee to investigate and settle their bill of expenses, and that the Grand Treasurer pay the same.

A petition was presented by E. A. Darcy and others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant be granted to them to form a new Lodge at Baskingridge, in the county of Somerset, to be called Baskingridge Lodge, No. 56, which petition was read; whereupon, on due consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue and that E. A. Darcy be the first Master, Cornelius Ludlow the first Senior Warden, and Samuel S. Doty the first Junior Warden of said Lodge.

A petition was presented by the members of Independence Lodge, No. 29, praying leave to change their place of meeting, so as to hold them in future at the house of Brother William Hodges, in Springtown, Morris county, which upon due consideration, was granted.

The committee appointed at the last Grand Annual Communication to settle the accounts of the late Grand Secretary, prayed further time, which was granted.

Brothers Darcy, Palmer, and Wick, each reported that they had paid the several donations intrusted to their care at the last Grand Communication.

There appearing to be an error in the entry of an account of disbursements of Joseph Y. Miller, for Jackson Bassett, presented at the last Grand Communication, it was on motion,

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary correct and amend said minutes, so as to read, "Brother Joseph Y. Miller presented an account of disbursements for Jackson Bassett, amounting to $17.25, which was received and ordered to be filed."

The committee (consisting of Brothers Burroughs, J. W. Scott, and Hunt,) appointed to inquire into the condition of Hiram Lodge, No. 25, and see that the By-Laws and Regulations of the Grand Lodge respecting the same be enforced, &c., prayed further time, which was granted.

Brother Palmer presented a bill for printing the proceedings

of the Grand Lodge for the year 5825, amounting to twenty-two dollars and twenty-four cents, which was passed and ordered to be paid.

Brother Kerwood presented a bill for ten dollars for repairs of Grand Lodge, which was passed and ordered to be paid.

The committee appointed to settle the Grand Treasurer's accounts, made their report, which was read and agreed to.

On motion, it was unanimously

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer make a correct statement of the funds of the Grand Lodge, and of what it consists, defining the same particularly, and lay the same before the Grand Lodge in due time for their inspection, &c., at their next Grand Annual Communication.

DONATIONS.

Ordered, on application of Franklin Lodge, No. 53, that a new warrant be granted to said Lodge free of expense, the original warrant having been destroyed by fire, and that the Grand Treasurer pay to J. W. Camp the sum of twenty-five dollars, to be appropriated to the use and relief of said Lodge.

Ordered, That the sum of nineteen dollars and forty-nine cents be paid to Brother Amos A. Harrison, for the use and relief of Union Lodge, No. 21.

Ordered, That the expenses of the Reverend Jonathan Brooks be paid by the Grand Treasurer, for his attendance as Grand Chaplain, at the present Grand Communication.

Ordered, That the sum of thirty dollars be paid to Brother William Newburn, as charity, for his relief.

Ordered, That the sum of twenty dollars be paid to Brother Stull, to be appropriated to the relief of Hannah Ramsay.

The Grand Lodge having gone through all the business before them, proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were duly elected, viz:

Most Worshipful John S. Darcy, Grand Master.
Right Worshipful Hedge Thompson, Deputy Grand Master.
" " Isaac H. Hampton Grand Senior Warden.
" " Andrew Parsons, Grand Junior Warden.
" " Zac. Rossell, Grand Secretary.
" " John C. Chambers, Deputy Grand Secretary.
" " Thomas L. Woodruff, Grand Treasurer.

All the Grand Officers elect being present, were severally invested and installed, according to the ancient forms and ceremonies.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments, viz:

Worshipful John Mershon, Grand Senior Deacon.
" Edward Swayze, Grand Junior Deacon.
" Rev. W. L. Johnson, Grand Chaplain.
" James Cushman, Grand Lecturer.
" Joseph W. Scott, Grand Visitor.
" Daniel Babbitt, Grand Marshal.
" Wm. Hunt, Grand Pursuivant.
" Daniel Phillips, Grand Steward.
" Geo. P. Glentworth, Grand Steward.
Brother David Wrighter, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge closed, &c.

ATTEST: ZACHARIAH ROSSELL,
November, A. L. 5827. *Grand Secretary.*

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1828.

Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at their Hall, in the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, the 11th day of November, A. L. 5828.

PRESENT.

M. W. ISAAC H. HAMPTON, Grand Master, p. t.
R. W. SAMUEL J. READ, Deputy Grand Master, p. t..
R. W. GEORGE GREEN, Grand Senior Warden, p. t.
R. W. JAMES B. POTTER, Grand Junior Warden, p. t.
R. W. ZACHARIAH ROSSELL, Grand Secretary.
R. W. JOHN C. CHAMBERS, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. THOMAS L. WOODRUFF, Grand Treasurer.
W. & REV. WM. L. JOHNSON, Grand Chaplain.
W. JOHN MERSHON, Grand Senior Deacon.
W. JAMES CUSHMAN, Grand Junior Deacon, p. t.
W. JAMES CUSHMAN, Grand Lecturer.
W. GEO. P. GLENTWORTH, Grand Steward.
BRO. MARTIN C. HOW, Grand Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.—Samnel J. Read, Franklin Davenport, Wm. N. Jeffers.

Representatives from the following Lodges attended, viz:

Charles M. Wells, Wm. Kerwood, Thomas Cadwalader, Jr., Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

Thomas A. Dildine, Peter Merkle, Harmony Lodge, No. 8.

James B. Potter, Enos F. Randolph, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

Isaac Hinchman, Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.

F. S. Vanarsdalen, Peter P. Vanderhoof, Union Lodge, No. 12.

George Haywood, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.

Richard P. Thompson, Wm. N. Jeffers, Salem Lodge, No. 19.

Lewis Mulford, Friendship Lodge, No. 22.

Daniel Ulp, Mansfield Lodge, No. 31.

Joseph Barclay, James Lloyd, Washington Shrewsbury Lodge, No. 34.

Edward Shepherd, Cedarville Lodge, No, 35.

Jeremiah Stull, Pittstown Lodge, No. 38.

John Allen, Jerusalem Lodge, No. 40.

Peter Duncan, David K. Schenck, Cranbury Lodge, No. 47.

George Green, Warren Lodge, No. 52.

Lewis Atterbury, Newark Lodge, No. 55.

Jeremiah A. Craig, Baskingridge Lodge, No. 56.

VISITING BRETHREN.

Wm. Newman,	James S. Nevius,
Alexander Wurts,	Joseph W. Moore.

The Grand Lodge was opened in due form and proceeded to business.

The minutes of the last Grand Communication were read and agreed to.

The Grand Master, through illness, having been prevented from attending this Grand Communication, the following extract of a letter addressed by him to Brother Hampton, Grand Senior Warden, was read, and ordered to be inserted in the minutes:

The duties of the Chair will of course devolve on you, and I will thank you to communicate to this Grand Lodge the very unpleasant intelligence we have received of the decease of the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, the Hon. Hedge Thompson, so as that measures may be adopted to pay a proper respect to the memory of that very worthy and respected friend and brother.

On application of a sufficient number of Master Masons, residing in the vicinity of Vernon, in the county of Sussex, for a dispensation to form a new Lodge at that place, to be called Mount Vernon Lodge, and with

the recommendation of Harmony Lodge, No. 8, and St. John's Lodge, No. 18, at Warwick, in the State of New York, I granted them a dispensation accordingly, on the 13th March last, and authorized Brother Joseph Y. Miller, of Harmony Lodge, to attend to their installation. I will thank you to tender to the brethren composing the Grand Lodge of New Jersey my most grateful acknowledgments for their numerous and distinguished evidences of respect and esteem—but in compliance with my own wishes and the plan adopted by my worthy predecessor, I must decline being "a third time elected to preside over their deliberations."

The Committee of Correspondence report that nothing has been received necessary to communicate to the Grand Lodge.

Brother Read, from the committee appointed to examine the matters in difference between St. John's Lodge, No. 2, and Newark Lodge, made the following report:

Most Worshipful Grand Master:

In accordance with the resolution of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, at their last Communication, appointing Brothers Mickle, Miller, and myself a committee to investigate the charges exhibited by St. John's Lodge, No. 2. against Newark Lodge, No. 55, I beg leave to state that Brother Mickle and myself repaired to Newark, on the 2d day of January last, where we expected Brother Miller; but owing to some unforeseen occurrence, as we presume, we were not favored with his company. We were politely met by a committee of the brethren of Newark Lodge, and after some time spent in investigatiug the matters of difference between the Lodges, I am happy to state that the brethren of those Lodges amicably agreed between themselves to adjust their differences, and that St. John's Lodge offered to Newark Lodge the use of the Masonic Hall, in Newark, which was accepted, and they now occupy the same in harmony, as I have since been informed. The committee therefore deemed it unnecessary to proceed further in their inquiries of the matters submitted to them. Brother Mickle not being present to join me in a formal report, I beg leave to make the above communication for the information of the Grand Lodge.

Nov. 11th, 1828. SAMUEL J. READ.

Which was read, agreed to, and ordered to be inserted in the minutes.

The committee appointed to settle the accounts of the Grand Secretary, report that it was out of their power to make any settlement, and beg leave to be discharged, which was granted.

On motion,

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to settle the accounts of the Grand Treasurer.

Whereupon, Brothers Chas. M. Wells, Lewis Mulford, and Edward Shepherd were appointed.

Inasmuch as the donation at the last Communication to Brother Stull, appropriated to the relief of Hannah Ramsey, was not received from the Grand Treasurer, and it not being considered now necessary, on motion,

Ordered, That the same donation be countermanded.

A petition of Deerfield Lodge was presented for removing their place of meeting from Deerfield to Centreville, which was granted.

The committee appointed to examine into and report on the proceedings of Dennis Creek Lodge, was ordered to be continued, and Brothers James B. Potter, and Enos F. Randolph, be added to the committee.

The committee, Trustees of the Masonic Fund for erecting a monument over the remains of Washington, at Mount Vernon, beg leave to report: that they repaired to Washington City, for the purpose of meeting the several delegations of the State Grand Lodges, as by previous consent was arranged; and there being representatious from only four Grand Lodges, the convention adjourned, after passing a resolution to refer the further consideration of the subject to the several Grand Lodges of the United States.

I. H. Hampton, one of the committee,

No member of the committee appointed to enquire into the condition of Hiram Lodge, No. 25, at the last Communication, being present,

Resolved,, That the same committee be continued, and requested to report to the next Annual Communication.

The committee appointed to settle the Treasurer's accounts, report:

That they have examined the same, and find the amount of disposable funds now in his hands to be two hundred dollars and ninety-five cents, exclusive of stock, debts, and other funds.

Charles M. Wells,
Lewis Mulford,
Committee.

A petition was presented by Wm. R. Winans and others, all

Master Masons, praying that a warrant may be granted to them to form a new Lodge, at Vernon, in Sussex county, to be called Mount Vernon Lodge, No. 57; which petition was read, whereupon, on due consideration, it was

Ordered, That a warrant do issue, and that Wm. R. Winans be first Master, Robert Rutan the first Senior Warden, and Tobias Van Gilder first Junior Warden.

On the application of Salem Lodge, the dues of said Lodge to the Grand Lodge for the year 5827, were remitted.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to write to all the Lodges of this state who have neglected to make returns for the last two years to this Grand Lodge, and inform them that unless their dues are paid or some reasonable excuse offered for their neglect by the next Grand Annual Communication, they will be stricken from the list of Lodges.

On motion,

Ordered, That the sum of four dollars be paid to the Grand Tyler for his services at this Grand Annual Communication.

On motion,

Ordered, That Joseph Justice's bill for printing be paid. Amount 26 dollars.

The Grand Lodge having gone through all the business before them, proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were duly elected, viz-

Most Worshipful Isaac H. Hampton, Grand Master.
Right Worshipful Andrew Parsons, Deputy Grand Master.
" " Thos. L. Woodruff, Senior Grand Warden.
" " George Green, Junior Grand Warden.
" " John C. Chambers, Grand Secretary.
" " Charles M. Wells, Grand Treasurer.
" " Geo. P. Glentworth, Deputy Grand Secretary.

The Grand Officers elect were severally invested and installed according to the ancient forms and ceremonies.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments, viz:

Worshipful John Mershon, Grand Senior Deacon.
" Joseph W. Moore, Grand Junior Deacon.
" and Rev. William L. Johnson, Grand Chaplain.
" James Cushman, Grand Lecturer.
" James Cushman, Grand Visitor.
" John E. Jeffers, Grand Marshal.
" Richard P. Thompson, Grand Pursuivant.
" Dan'l Phillips, Philemon Dickinson, G. Stewards.
Brother Martin C. Howe, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge then closed in harmony, to meet again on Tuesday, the 10th of November, A. L. 5829.

JOHN C. CHAMBERS.

Nov. 11th, A. L. 5828. *Grand Secretary.*

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1829.

Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at their hall in the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, the tenth day of November, A. L. 5829.

PRESENT.

M. W. I. H. HAMPTON, Grand Master.
R. W. SAM'L J. READ, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. THO'S L. WOODRUFF, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. E. F. RANDOLPH, Grand Junior Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOHN C. CHAMBERS, Grand Secretary.
R. W. CHAS. M. WELLS, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. G. P. GLENTWORTH, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. CHAS. BURROUGHS, Deputy Grand Treasurer.
GEORGE EYRES, Grand Senior Deacon, p. t.
JOS. W. MOORE, Grand Junior Deacon.
RICHARD P. THOMPSON, Grand Pursuivant.
DANIEL HUTCHINSON, Grand Steward, p. t.
BRO. MARTIN C. HOWE, Grand Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.—J. W. Scott, Wm. N. Jeffers.

PAST MASTERS.—Charles Burroughs, William Scott.

Representatives from the following Lodges attended, viz:

Z. Rossell, W. M., Thomas Cadwallader, S. W., Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
E. F. Randolph, George Ayres, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
John Dunham, W. M., Jesse Price, S. W., Woodbury Lodge, No. 11.
William Jones, Union Lodge, No. 12.
W. Gray, W. M., Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.
James Clark, W. M.. Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.
Richard Eayre, W. M., Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.
A. A. Harrison, W. M., Union Lodge, No. 21.
L. Mulford, W. M., Friendship Lodge, No. 22.
G. Ribble, W. M., Hope Lodge, No. 26.
J. P. Ribble, Mansfield Lodge, No. 31.
J. C. Harris, Cedarville Lodge, No. 35.
J. Johnson, W. M., Pittstown Lodge, No. 38.
John Allen, W. M., Jerusalem Lodge, No. 40.
James Fetters, W. M., Camden Lodge, No. 45.
A. Dickinson, W. M., Joseph Moore, J. W., Euclid Lodge, No. 46.
Charles Carson, W. M., David K. Schenck, S. W., Cranbury Lodge, No. 47.
Benjamin Egbert, W. M., Lebanon Lodge, No. 54.
S. S. Doty, W. M., J. A. Craig, S. W., Baskingridge Lodge, No. 56.

VISITING BRETHREN.

Brothers Samuel Kay, L. Little, Isaac Hinchman.
Ambrose Howell, John W. Mickle,

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form and proceeded to business.

The minutes of the last Grand Communication were read and agreed to.

The committee on Dennis Creek Lodge, not being ready to report, was continued.

The committee appointed to enquire into the condition of Hiram Lodge, No. 25, not being ready to report, was discharged, and on motion, Brother Benjamin Egbert was appointed in their stead, and to report at the next Grand Communication.

The petition from Essex Lodge, No. 44, to continue their charter, was granted.

A communication from Solomon's Lodge, No. 1, was read, stating their wish to resign their warrant, reserving the privilege

of "retaining its number and of being taken up at some other period of time," whereupon it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to inform Solomon's Lodge, No. 1, that this Grand Lodge cannot receive their warrant with a reservation, but if it is the wish of said Lodge to surrender their warrant in the usual manner, it will be accepted.

On motion,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to enquire into the condition of Dover Lodge, No. 50, and report at the next Grand Communication, and that Brother George Ribble be said committee.

Ordered, That Brothers Thompson, Glentworth and Cadwallader, be a committee to examine and report on the accounts of the Grand Treasurer.

The report of the committee on Mansfield Lodge, was read, accepted and the subject dismissed.

A petition was presented by Brother John R. Sickler and others, all Master Masons, praying that a warrant be granted them to form a new Lodge at Chew's Landing, in the county of Gloucester. After due consideration, on motion, permission was given to withdraw their petition.

The committee to settle the Treasurer's accounts, report

That they have examined them and find the amount of disposal fund now in hands, to be one hundred and eighty-two dollars and twenty-two cents, exclusive of stock, debts and other funds.

Signed: THOS. CADWALLADER, GEO. P. GLENTWORTH, } *Committee.*

Which report was accepted.

A petition from Baskingridge Lodge, to remove their place of meeting from Baskingridge to "Little Cross Roads," was read and the privilege granted.

Resolved, That Brothers Read and Rossell be a committee to examine the correspondence and make report.

Brother Rossell offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That no visitor ought to be admitted *without examination*, in any Lodge within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, unless vouched for by some member of the Lodge who shall have sat with the visitor in some Lodge in this state.

The following resolution was offered:

Resolved, That no examination of any Mason belonging to any Lodge

under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, should be gone to in any case, unless the visitor shall have sent into the Lodge, his name, written by himself, accompanied by a Grand Lodge certificate from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania; which was negatived as un-masonic, but ordered to be placed on the minutes.

Ordered, That a certificate of this Grand Lodge be granted to Brother Pearce.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to settle the funeral expenses of our late Brother Wrighter, Grand Tyler, to the amount not exceeding twenty dollars, and that Brothers Burroughs and Glentworth, be the committee and draw on the Grand Treasurer for the amount.

The Committee on the Correspondence report

That nothing has been received necessary to communicate to this Grand Lodge.

Ordered, That four dollars be paid to the Grand Tyler for his services this Grand Communication.

The Grand Lodge having gone through all the other business before them, proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were duly elected:

Most Worshipful Isaac H. Hampton, Grand Master.
Right Worshipful Joseph W. Scott, Deputy Grand Master.
" " Thos. L. Woodruff, Grand Senior Warden.
" " William Scott, Grand Junior Warden.
" " John C. Chambers, Grand Secretary.
" " Chas. M. Wells, Grand Treasurer.
" " Geo. P. Glentworth, Deputy Grand Secretary.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments:

Worshipful Joseph W. Moore, Grand Senior Deacon.
" Daniel Hutchinson, Grand Junior Deacon.
" and Rev. Jonathan Brooks, Grand Chaplain.
" James Cushman, Grand Lecturer.
" James Cushman, Grand Visitor.
" John E. Jeffers, Grand Marshal.
" Richard P. Thompson, Grand Pursuivant.
" Dan'l Phillips, P. Dickinson, Grand Stewards.
Brother Martin C. Howe, Grand Tyler.

The Deputy Grand Master and Grand Junior Warden elect, were regularly installed and received the salutations of their brethren.

The Grand Lodge closed in harmony, to meet again on the second Tuesday in November, A. L. 5830, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

ATTEST: JOHN C. CHAMBERS,

Nov. 10th, A. L. 5829. *Grand Secretary.*

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1830.

Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held in the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, the 9th day of November, A. L. 5830, A. D. 1830.

PRESENT.

M. W. THOS. L. WOODRUFF, Grand Master, p. t.
R. W. JOSEPH W. SCOTT, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. WILLIAM SCOTT, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. PRUDEN ALLING, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. E. VANARSDALE, JR., Grand Secretary, p. t.
R. W. CHAS. BURROUGHS, Grand Treasurer.
WM. KERWOOD, Senior Grand Deacon.
DAN'L HUTCHINSON, Junior Grand Deacon,
P. DICKINSON, Grand Steward.
REV. JONATHAN BROOKS, Grand Chaplain.
M. C. HOWE, Grand Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.—Samuel J. Read, William N. Jeffers.
PAST MASTERS.—Joseph W. Camp.

The following Lodges were represented:

Pruden Alling, E. Vanarsdale, Jr., St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
T. Cadwalader, Jr., William Kerwood, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
Enos F. Randolph, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
William Grey, Charles Sitgraves, P. Sherman, Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16.
John D. Jackson, Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.
Richard Eyre, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18.

No representation from Jerusalem Lodge, No. 40.
Ebenezer Toole, Camden Lodge, No. 45.
Joseph Dickerson, John Hardy, Euclid Lodge, No. 46.
David K. Schanck, Cranbury Lodge, No. 47.
Amzi Dodd, Bloomfield Lodge, No. 48.
George W. Campbell, Newark Lodge, No. 55.

The Grand Lodge opened in ample form and proceeded to business.

A communication was received from the Most Worshipful Isaac H. Hampton, Grand Master, which was read and ordered to lie on the table.

The minutes of the last Grand Annual Communication were read and approved of.

The committee appointed at the last Communication to enquire into the condition of Dove Lodge, No. 50, not being ready to report, it was

Ordered, That further time be allowed said committee to report, until the next Communication.

A petition was presented on behalf of Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18, for leave to surrender their warrant, with liberty to take back the same at some future time (with such number as the Grand Lodge may direct). After some time spent in discussing the prayer of the petitioners, the further consideration thereof was ordered to be postponed, and the petition referred to Brothers Read, Woodruff, and J. W. Scott, as a committee to report at the present meeting. Before the committee made any report upon the matter, leave was granted to withdraw the petition, and the committee ordered to be discharged from all further consideration thereof.

Ordered, That Brothers Alling, Dickinson, and Sitgreaves be a committee to examine and report upon the Grand Treasurer's accounts.

On petition of Brother William Newburn, a member of Woodbury Lodge, No. 11, it was

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the Grand Lodge do pay out of the funds of the Grand Lodge in his hands, five dollars to said brother, who has been rendered unable to assist himself in consequence of a paralytic stroke.

On motion,

Resolved, That the sum of five dollars be given to Martha Wrighter, widow of Brother David Wrighter, late Grand Tyler of this Grand Lodge.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer pay to Brother Jonathan Brooks, Grand Chaplain, twenty dollars, as a remuneration for his services as Grand Chaplain.

The committee appointed to settle the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, reported

A balance in his hands at present, available funds, one hundred and seventy-five dollars and thirty-seven cents, of which ninety-two dollars and ninety-five cents are in the hands of the present Treasurer, and eighty-six dollars and forty-six cents in the hands of Brother Woodruff, late Grand Treasurer.

Which report was ordered to be accepted.

On motion,

Resolved, That Euclid Lodge, No. 46, be allowed to move their place of meeting to Dover, Morris county, provided they deem the removal necessary.

Ordered, That Basking Ridge Lodge, No. 56, have liberty to remove the place of holding their meetings from Little Cross Roads to Peapack.

Ordered, That Bloomfield Lodge, No. 48, have liberty to surrender their warrant and jewels.

Ordered, That the sum of four dollars be allowed to the Grand Tyler, for his services at this Communication.

The Grand Lodge having gone through all other business before them, proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were duly elected:

Most Worshipful Joseph Warren Scott, Grand Master.
Right Worshipful Thomas L. Woodruff, Deputy Grand Master.
" " William Scott, Senior Grand Warden.
" " William Gray, Junior Grand Warden.
" " Charles Burroughs, Grand Treasurer.
" " E. Vanarsdale, Jr., Grand Secretary.
" " P. Dickinson, Deputy Grand Secretary.

All the Grand Officers being present, were severally invested and installed according to the ancient forms and ceremonies of the Order.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments:

Worshipful & Rev. Jonathan Brooks, Grand Chaplain.
" Wm. Kerwood, Grand Senior Deacon.
" Daniel Hutchinson, Grand Junior Deacon.
" E. J. Thompson, Grand Visitor.
" John Cox, Grand Marshal.
" Jona. K. Dunham, Grand Pursuivant.
" Daniel Phillips, H. Y. Lowe, Grand Stewards.
" M. C. Howe, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge closed in harmony, to meet again on the second Tuesday in November, 5831, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1831.

Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, the 8th day of November, A. L. 5831.

PRESENT.

M. W. JOSEPH WARREN SCOTT, Grand Master.
R. W. THOS. L. WOODRUFF, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. WM. GRAY, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOHN P. LEWIS, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. E. VANARSDALE, Grand Secretary.
R. W. CHAS. BURROUGHS, Grand Treasurer.
W. WM. KERWOOD, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. DANIEL HUTCHINSON, Junior Grand Deacon.
MARTIN C. HOWE, Grand Tyler.
W. & REV. JONATHAN BROOKS, Grand Chaplain.

VISITING BRETHREN.

Samuel J. Read, P. G. M.,
Amzi Dodd,
William Snowhill,
Hamilton Hornor.
Geo. W. Tucker, P. M.
Benjamin Laird,
E. J. Thompson,

Representatives from the following Lodges attended, viz:

E. Vanarsdale, Jr., St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
John Mershon, Robert C. Buzby, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

Azariah P. Davis, Jonathan Brooks, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

John P. Lewis, Joseph Barclay, James Lloyd, Shrewsbury Washington Lodge, No. 34.

John Allen, Jerusalem Lodge, No. 40.

Joseph Taylor, Camden Lodge, No. 45.

Hugh Runyon, Basking Ridge Lodge, No. 56.

The Grand Lodge opened in ample form and proceeded to business.

Prayer by the Rev. Brother Brooks.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master delivered an excellent and truly Masonic address, which was highly pleasing to all who heard it.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 2 o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, November 8th, 5831, 2 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met agreeably to adjournment.

The minutes of the last Grand Communication were read and approved of.

Brothers Jonathan Brooks, A. D. Davis, and John Allen, were appointed a committee to settle with the Grand Treasurer.

Brothers T. L. Woodruff, Deputy Grand Master, E. Vanarsdale, Jr., Grand Secretary, and Robert C. Buzby, were appointed committee to examine the correspondence.

A return being handed in from St. John's Lodge, No. 2; on motion of Brother E. Vanarsdale, Jr., it was

Ordered, That the dues from said Lodge to the Grand Lodge for the past year, be remitted.

A return being handed in from Newark Lodge, No. 55; on motion of Brother E. Vanarsdale, Jr., it was

Ordered, That the dues from that Lodge to the Grand Lodge for the past year, be remitted.

The committee appointed to settle the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, reported

A balance in his hands of available funds, of seventy dollars four and a half cents. That he has received during the last year the sum of eighty dollars and twelve cents, which, together with the balance of ninety-two dollars and ninety-five cents, remaining in the treasury at the last settlement, makes the sum of one hundred and seventy-three dollars seven and a half cents. And that he has paid the sum of one hundred

and three dollars two and a half cents, which leaves a balance of available funds in his hands of seventy dollars four and a half cents.

The balance in the hands of the late Grand Treasurer remains the same as at the last Annual Communication. The bank stock, &c., remain the same as at the above mentioned time.

The committee appointed to examine the correspondence, reported that nothing has been received since the last Annual Communication necessary to lay before the Grand Lodge.

On motion made and seconded, it was

Ordered, That Basking Ridge Lodge, No. 56, have liberty to remove their place of meeting to Chester, Morris county, and to change their name to that of Clinton Lodge, No. 56.

On motion made and seconded,

Ordered, That the Grand Treasurer pay to Brother Jonathan Brooks, Grand Chaplain, the sum of twenty dollars, for his services as Grand Chaplain.

Ordered, That the sum of four dollars be allowed the Grand Tyler for his services at this Communication.

The Grand Lodge having gone through all the other business before them, proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were duly elected, viz:

Most Worshipful Joseph Warren Scott, Grand Master.
Right Worshipful Thomas L. Woodruff, Deputy Grand Master.
" " William Gray, Senior Grand Warden.
" " E. Vanarsdale, Jr., Junior Grand Warden.
" " John Mershon, Grand Secretary.
" " Phil. Dickinson, Deputy Grand Secretary.
" " Chas. Burroughs, Grand Treasurer.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments, viz:

Worshipful & Rev. Jonathan Brooks, Grand Chaplain.
" William Kerwood, Senior Grand Deacon.
" Daniel Hutchinson, Junior Grand Deacon.
" E. J. Thompson, Grand Visitor.
" John Cox, Grand Marshal.
" Jonathan K. Dunham, Grand Pursuivant.
" Daniel Phillips, John Dickinson, Grand Stewards.
" Martin C. Howe, Grand Tyler.

All the Grand Officers elect (except the Grand Treasurer and Deputy Grand Secretary) being present, were severally installed in due form, and an appropriate charge given to each one by the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to our Most Worshipful Grand Master, J. W. Scott, Esq., for his able and feeling address delivered this day before this Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge closed in harmony, to meet again in this place, on the second Tuesday in November, A. L. 5832, A. D. 1832.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1832.

Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, at their Annual Communication, held in the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, November 13th, 1832.

PRESENT.

M. W. J. W. SCOTT, Grand Master.
R. W. THOS. L. WOODRUFF, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN ALLEN, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. E. VANARSDALE, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOHN MERSHON, Grand Secretary.
R. W. CHAS. BURROUGHS, Grand Treasurer.
W. & Rev. JONA. BROOKS, Grand Chaplain.
W. WM. KERWOOD, Grand Senior Deacon
W. DANIEL HUTCHINSON, Grand Junior Deacon.
W. M. C. HOWE, Grand Tyler.

VISITING BRETHREN.

Jazer Sickler, Richard S. Field.

Representatives from the following Lodges appeared and took their seats, viz:

Elias Vanarsdale, Jr., St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
Daniel Hutchinson, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
John Allen, Jerusalem Lodge, No. 40.
Benjamin Burroughs, Camden Lodge, No. 45.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, and proceeded to business.

Brothers Allen and Kerwood were appointed a committee to examine the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, and Brothers Allen, Kerwood and Brooks, on Foreign Correspondence.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

Three o'clock, P. M., the Grand Lodge met agreeably to adjournment, present as in the morning.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master delivered an eloquent address, in which he took a general view of the principles of our Ancient and Honorable Institution, setting forth and endeavoring to impress upon the minds of the brethren the duties they are bound to fulfil to their Masonic brethren and also to the rest of mankind; recommending to every Mason to adhere to the principles of our Order, and to persevere in their good work and labor of love.

A petition was presented from Jesse Price, Jazer Sickler, Chester Chatten and seven others, all Master Masons, for a warrant to form a new Lodge at Chew's Landing, in the county Gloucester, to be called Hiram Lodge, No. 58; and after due consideration, it was unanimously

Resolved, To grant the prayer of the petitioners.

Whereupon the warrant was filled up, signed by the Grand Officers, and delivered to Brother Jazer Sickler.

The committee appointed to examine the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, reported

A balance in his hands of twenty-five dollars and fourteen cents, also four shares of stock in the Trenton Bank, and that the balance in the hands of the late Grand Treasurer remains the same as at the last Annual Communication.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence reported:

That the communications received from the different Grand Lodges during the last year, consist of extracts of the proceedings of the several Grand Lodges, and also the signatures of the Grand Officers, and do not require the attention of this Grand Lodge. They recommend that the

Grand Secretary shall transmit to each Grand Lodge in the United States, such part of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge as shall be published.

An account was presented from George Sherman, the balance on which was four dollars and seventy-five cents, which was ordered to be paid.

An account was presented from Brother Joseph Justice, amounting to twenty-two dollars, which was ordered to be paid.

Brother John Mershon, Grand Secretary, presented an account amounting to thirty-two dollars and twenty-nine cents, which was ordered to be paid.

On motion made and seconded, it was

Ordered, That the sum of ten dollars be paid to Brother Brooks, Grand Chaplain.

Our worthy brother, Dr. Thomas L. Woodruff, Deputy Grand Master, gave notice to the Grand Lodge, that he declined standing as a candidate for any office in the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge having gone through with all the business before them, proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were duly elected, viz:

Most Worshipful Joseph W. Scott, Grand Master.
Right Worshipful Elias Vanarsdale, Jr., Deputy Grand Master.
" " John Allen, Senior Grand Warden.
" " William Kerwood, Junior Grand Warden.
" " John Mershon, Grand Secretary.
" " Charles Burroughs, Grand Treasurer.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments, viz:

Worshipful & Rev. Jonathan Brooks, Grand Chaplain.
" E. J. Thompson, Grand Visitor.
" John Cox, Grand Marshal.
" Jona. R. Dunham, Grand Pursuivant.
" Joseph Justice, Senior Grand Deacon.
" Samuel McClurg, Junior Grand Deacon.
" Daniel Phillips, John Dickinson, Grand Stewards.
" Martin C. Howe, Grand Tyler.

All the Grand Officers being present, were severally invested and installed, according to our ancient rites and ceremonies.

The Grand Lodge then closed to meet again on the 12th day of November, A. L. 5833, unless, &c.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1833.

At the annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, held at the Masonic hall in the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, November 12th, A. D. 1833, A. L. 5833.

PRESENT.

M. W. JOSEPH W. SCOTT, Grand Master.
R. W. E. VANARSDALE, Jr., Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. W. IMLA DRAKE, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. WILLIAM KERWOOD, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOHN MERSHON, Grand Secretary.
R. W. CHAS. BURROUGHS, Grand Treasurer.
Rev. JONATHAN BROOKS, Grand Chaplain.

Visiting Brother.—Brother James Herring, Right Worshipful Grand Secretary of Grand Lodge of New York.

Representatives from the following Lodges appeared and took their seats, viz:

Charles Burroughs, William Kerwood, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
Jonathan Brooks, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
William Jones, Union Lodge, No. 12.
Imla Drake, David Parke, Lebanon Lodge, No. 54.
Jonathan Ball, Newark Lodge, No. 55.
Moses Craig, Stephen Rush, Clinton Lodge, No. 56.

The Grand Lodge was opened in due form and proceeded to business. The minutes of the last Grand Annual Communication were read and approved of.

The Grand Secretary reported

That since the last Grand Annual Communication he had received communications from the following Grand Lodges, viz: Nova Scotia, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, New York, Louisiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Virginia, Georgia, District of Columbia, South Carolina, and Florida.

Brother Deputy Grand Master Vanarsdale, Brothers Kerwood and Mershon, were appointed a committee to examine the foreign correspondence, and Brothers Jones, Drake and Craig, to examine the accounts of the Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment until 2 o'clock, P. M.

Two o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor. Present as in the morning.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master delivered the annual address, which, as on former occasions, was listened to with deep interest by all who had the pleasure of hearing it.

Our worthy brother, the Right Worshipful James Herring, also addressed the Grand Lodge at considerable length, which address was highly interesting to all present.

The committee appointed to examine the foreign correspondence, reported

The communications received consist of extracts of the proceedings of the different Grand Lodges and the signatures of the Grand Officers, and do not require the particular attention of this Grand Lodge.

The committee appointed to examine the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, reported

That they had examined the accounts with the vouchers, find them correctly stated, and find a balance due the Grand Treasurer amounting to ten dollars and fifty cents, and that the Grand Treasurer holds four shares of the capital stock of the Trenton Banking Company, as the property of this Grand Lodge.

An account was presented from Brother Joseph Justice amounting to eight dollars and seventy-five cents, which was ordered to be paid.

On motion made and seconded, it was

Resolved, That a committee be appointed with full power to settle an account with our late Grand Treasurer, Brother Thomas L. Woodruff, who is supposed to have in his hands the sum of about four hundred dollars belonging to this Grand Lodge. The committee to settle the accounts on the best terms they can.

Whereupon Righ Worshipful Brother J. B. Munn, Past

Grand Master, Right Worshipful Brother John S. Darcy, Past Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Brother Elias Vanarsdale, Jr., Deputy Grand Master, were duly appointed.

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary inform the committee of their appointment.

Resolved, That three years' dues be remitted Lebanon Lodge.

Resolved, That two years' dues be remitted Union Lodge.

Resolved, That one year's dues be remitted Newark Lodge.

Resolved, That two years' dues be remitted Clinton Lodge.

On motion made and seconded, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to sell two shares of the Trenton Bank stock on the best terms he can, and pay the amount over to the Grand Treasurer.

Resolved, That the sum of fifteen dollars be paid Brother Jonathan Brooks, Grand Chaplain, for his attendance at this Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge having gone through with all the other business before them, proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were duly elected, viz:

Most Worshipful Joseph W. Scott, Grand Master.
Right Worshipful Elias Vanarsdale, Deputy Grand Master.
" " Imla Drake, Senior Grand Warden.
" " William Kerwood, Junior Grand Warden.
" " John Mershon, Grand Secretary.
" " Daniel Hutchinson, Deputy Grand Secretary.
" " Charles Burroughs, Grand Treasurer.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments, viz:

Worshipful & Rev. Jonathan Brooks, Grand Chaplain.
" E. J. Thompson, Grand Visitor.
" John Cox, Grand Marshal.
" Jonathan R. Dunham, Grand Pursuivant.
" Horatio Chittendon, Senior Grand Deacon.
" William H. Earl, Junior Grand Deacon.
" Benj. Young, Jonathan Ball, Grand Stewards.
Brother John Green, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge closed in harmony, to meet again on Tuesday, Nov. 11th, A. L. 5834, unless &c.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1834.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, November 11th, A. D. 1834, A. L. 5834.

PRESENT.

M. W. JOSEPH W. SCOTT, Grand Master.
R. W. SAMUEL J. READ, Deputy Grand Master, p. t.
R. W. I. H. HAMPTON, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JAZER SICKLER, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOHN MERSHON, Grand Secretary.
R. W. DANIEL HUTCHINSON, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. CHARLES BURROUGHS, Grand Treasurer.
REV. JONATHAN BROOKS, Grand Chaplain.
JACOB STONE, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
GABRIEL DAVIS, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
BRO. S. B. SCATTERGOOD, Grand Tyler, p. t.

VISITING BROTHER.—S. D. Wessell.

Representatives from the following Lodges appeared and took their seats, viz:

X. J. Maynard, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
John M. Johnson, Camden Lodge, No. 45.
Jazer Sickler, Hiram Lodge, No. 58.
E. F. Randolph, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

The Grand Lodge was opened in due form in the third degree of Masonry.

The minutes of the last Annual Communication were read and approved.

The Grand Secretary made the following report:

Since the last Grand Annual Communication I have received communications from the following Grand Lodges, viz: Rhode Island, New Hampshire, New York, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, North Carolina, Washington, D. C., Virginia, Louisiana, Florida and South Carolina. And that in accordance with a resolution of the Grand Lodge, at their last Annual Communication, I have sold two shares of the stock held by this Grand Lodge, in Trenton Bank, for the sum of forty dollars per share, making the sum of eighty dollars, and placed the same in the hands of the Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Secretary further reports, that in obedience to an order of the Grand Lodge, at the last Annual Communication, he notified our worthy brothers, Past Grand Master Jepthah B. Munn, Past Grand Master J. S. Darcy, and our present Deputy Grand Master, Elias Vanarsdale, Jr., that they had been appointed a committee by the Grand Lodge, to examine the accounts of, and to settle with our late Grand Treasurer, Brother Thomas L. Woodruff, and that on the 5th day of March last Brothers Munn and Darcy attended in this city, and had an interview with Brother Woodruff, and, as your Grand Secretary understood, were to have had a meeting on the following day, which meeting was not had. The committee, however, proceeded in the investigation, and found a balance due from Brother Woodruff, amounting to four hundred and eighty dollars and twenty-five cents up to that time.

The Grand Secretary further reports, that on or about the 17th May last, he received a notice from Brother Woodruff, that he had made application for the benefit of the acts for the relief of insolvent debtors, according to acts and supplements thereto, made by the Legislature of this State, since which time nothing has been done in the premises, Brother Woodruff, however, obtained his request of the Court.

Dated Nov. 11th, A. L. 5834. JOHN MERSHON, *G. Sec.*

Brother J. Mershon, Grand Secretary, and X. J. Maynard, Grand Treasurer, were appointed a committee to settle with Brother Woodruff, and endeavor to obtain his bond or note for the amount due from him on the best terms they can, and report to the Grand Lodge at their next Annual Communication.

Brothers S. J. Read, J. Mershon, and X. J. Maynard were appointed a Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and Brothers S. D. Wessell, J. M. Johnson, and Jazer Sickler, a committee to examine the accounts of the Grand Treasurer.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence made the following report, which was unanimously agreed to:

The Committee appointed to examine the Foreign Correspondence, beg leave to report, that they have attended to that duty, and find the communications received to consist of extracts of the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Rhode Island, New Hampshire, New York, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, North Carolina, Washington (D. C.), Virginia, Louisiana, Florida, South Carolina, and the signatures of the Grand Officers, and find nothing that requires the immediate attention of this Grand Lodge. They are pleased to find that in many parts of our country Masonry appears to be reviving, notwithstanding the opposition

that was raised against the Institution some time ago. They recommend that the Grand Secretary transmit to the several Grand Lodges in the United States such extracts of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge as shall be published.

Dated Nov. 11th, A. L. 5834.

(Signed.) SAMUEL J. READ, JOHN MERSHON, X. J. MAYNARD, } *Committee.*

The committee appointed to examine the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, reported

That they had attended to that duty, and found the accounts correctly stated, and accompanied by the proper vouchers, and that they found a balance in his hands amounting to the sum of thirty-six dollars and ninety-eight cents, and two shares of stock in Trenton Bank.

(Signed.) J. D. WESSELL, J. M. JOHNSON, JAZER SICKLER, } *Committee.*

On motion made and seconded,

Ordered, That the sum of ten dollars be paid our Grand Chaplain, the Rev. and Worshipful Jonathan Brooks.

Ordered, That the sum of two dollars and sixteen cents be paid the Grand Secretary for cash paid by him for postage during the last year.

Ordered, That the sum of four dollars be paid the Grand Tyler for his attendance on this Grand Lodge.

On motion made and seconded, it was

Ordered, That the Grand Treasurer sell one share of the stock held by this Grand Lodge in Trenton Bank, and apply the proceeds to the use of this Grand Lodge.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master, in delivering his annual address, in his peculiar style of eloquence, set forth the beauties of our Order in language that we seldom hear equalled, was listened to with the greatest attention by all who heard him. In conclusion he notified the Grand Lodge that it was his intention at this time to retire from the office which he then held, which was much regretted by all the brethren.

The following resolution was then offered, which was unanimously adopted:

The Most Worshipful Grand Master having announced to this Grand Lodge his intention to retire from the office he now holds; *Resolved,* That

the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to our worthy brother, J. W. Scott, Most Worshipful Grand Master, for the able and faithful manner in which he has discharged his duties for the last four years.

To which the Most Worshipful Grand Master made a suitable and interesting reply.

The Grand Lodge having gone through with all other business before them, proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were duly elected, viz:

Most Worshipful Elias Vanarsdale, Jr., Grand Master.
Right Worshipful Chas. Burroughs, Deputy Grand Master.
" " William Kerwood, Senior Grand Warden.
" " Jazer Sickler, Junior Grand Warden.
" " John Mershon, Grand Secretary.
" " Daniel Hutchinson, Deputy Grand Secretary.
" " X. J. Maynard, Grand Treasurer.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments, viz:

Worshipful & Rev. Jonathan Brooks, Grand Chaplain.
" E. I. Thompson, Grand Visitor.
" Samuel Disbrow, Grand Marshal.
" Jona. R. Dunham, Grand Pursuivant.
" Horatio Chittenden, Senior Grand Deacon.
" William Earl, Junior Grand Deacon.
" Benj. Young, Grand Steward.
" Jona. C. Ball, Grand Steward.
Brother Samuel B. Scattergood, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge closed in harmony, to meet again on Tuesday, November 10th, A. D. 1835, A. L. 5835, unless, &c.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1835.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, November 10th, A. D. 1835, A. L. 5835.

PRESENT.

R. W. CHAS. BURROUGHS, Grand Master, p. t.
R. W. WM. KERWOOD, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. JAZER SICKLER, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOHN MERSHON, Grand Secretary.
R. W. DANIEL HUTCHINSON, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. HENRY C. BOSWELL, Grand Treasurer, p. t.
REV. & W. JONA. BROOKS, Grand Chaplain.
W. SOLOMON S. CHESTER, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
W. STEPHEN RUSH, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
BRO. SAMUEL B. SCATTERGOOD, Grand Tyler.

VISITING BRETHREN.

W. M. John S. Darcy, P. G. M.,
John W. Mitchell,
Samuel Heuston,
Jas. T. Thompson,
Zac. Rossell.
Thos. L. Woodruff,
Samuel Humphrey,
Gabriel Davis,
—— Godwin,

Representatives from the following Lodges appeared and took their seats, viz:

Henry C. Boswell, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
Jonathan Brooks, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
Andrew Parsons, Paterson Orange Lodge, No. 13.
Stephen Rush, Clinton Lodge, No. 56.
S. R. Sickler, S. S. Chester, Hiram Lodge, No. 58.

A communication was read by the Grand Secretary, from the Most Worshipful Elias Vanarsdale, Jr., Grand Master, in which he stated that it would be out of his power to attend this Communication of the Grand Lodge; whereupon the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Charles Burroughs, took the Chair, and opened the Grand Lodge in due form in Third Degree in Masonry.

The minutes of the last Annual Communication were read and approved.

The committee on the claim of the Grand Lodge against Brother Thomas L. Woodruff, former Grand Treasurer, made the following report:

The committee appointed at the last Annual Communication to settle an account on the books of the Grand Lodge against Brother Thomas L. Woodruff, former Grand Treasurer, which account, together with interest, amounts to the sum of about five hundred dollars, beg leave to report:

That your committee have had two or three interviews with Brother Woodruff, and finally offered to settle with him on his own terms, offering to take his note payable at such time as would be convenient to himself, and payable in such instalments as would be most convenient for him, but are sorry to say he declines making any settlement. Believing your committee have done all they can do in the business, they submit it to the Grand Lodge, and beg to be discharged.

Dated Nov. 10th, A. L. 5835. JOHN MERSHON, X. J. MAYNARD, } *Committee.*

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That the committee be now discharged.

The Grand Secretary read the following letter from Brother Thomas L. Woodruff:

"*To the Right Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey:*

"BRETHREN:—I regret sincerely my inability to liquidate the balance remaining in my hands as late Grand Treasurer.

"A favorable termination to a litigation for some property in which I have a considerable claim may enable me to arrange it previous to the next Annual Grand Communication. A termination unfavorable, I beg that such terms may be proposed, having regard to time and easy payments, as may ultimately produce this much desired settlement.

"I have the honor to be
Fraternally yours,
(Signed.) T. L. WOODRUFF."

After reading the above letter, it was, on motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That Brother John S. Darcy, Most Worshipful Past Grand Master, and Brother John Mershon, Grand Secretary, be appointed a committee to settle with Brother Woodruff, and report at the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Secretary reported, that

Since the last Annual Meeting of the Grand Lodge, he had received communications from the following Grand Lodges, viz: New York, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, District of Columbia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, and Florida.

Brothers John S. Darcy, Most Worshipful Past Grand Master, James T. Thompson, and Henry C. Boswell, were appointed a Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Brothers John W. Mickell, Daniel Hutchinson, Deputy Grand Secretary, and Gabriel Davis, were appointed a committee to settle the accounts of the Grand Treasurer.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence made the following report:

The Committee to whom was referred the Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report, that having examined the same, find them to consist of extracts of the proceedings of the several Grand Lodges, and the signatures of their Grand Officers, but find nothing that requires the attention of this Grand Lodge. They recommend that the Grand Secretary be directed to transmit to each Grand Lodge in correspondence with this such extracts of the proceedings as shall be published.

Dated Nov. 10th, A. L. 5835.

(Signed.) JOHN S. DARCY, JAMES T. THOMPSON, H. C. BOSWELL, } *Committee.*

The committee appointed to settle the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, made the following report:

The committee appointed to examine the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, report, that they have examined the accounts with the vouchers, and find them exactly stated, and find a balance in his hands of thirty-eight dollars, and one share of Bank stock valued at forty dollars, making in all seventy-five dollars.

Dated Nov. 10th, 5835.

(Signed.) J. W. MICKELL, DAN'L HUTCHINSON, GABRIEL DAVIS, } *Committee.*

A letter, of which the following is a copy, was presented and read to the Grand Lodge by Brother Andrew Parsons:

Brother A. Parsons:

SIR:—I am ordered by the "Paterson Orange Lodge, No. 13," to inform you of the appointment of yourself, Brother Charles Kinsey, and

Brother Philemon Dickerson as delegates to represent this Lodge in the Grand Lodge at the Annual Meeting on the 10th November, inst., sincerely hoping that you will each accept the appointment and act accordingly. We wish you to request of the Grand Lodge a remission of all former dues, as owing to the *anti Masonic* excitement so long prevalent, we have not had any meetings until recently, and we are now prepared to reorganize, and will remit all dues hereafter accruing with punctuality. We have also to request that you will endeavor to have the name of the Lodge altered from "Paterson Orange Lodge, No. 13," to Passaic Lodge, No. 13, inasmuch as the former title is a cause of offence to many, and induces others to believe it is a political association, similar to the Orange Lodges of Ireland, and those held in the army of Great Britain. Not doubting in your zeal and perseverance, permit me on behalf of the Lodge to subscribe myself fraternally,

Paterson, Nov. 7th, 1835. (Signed.) J. M. CRISMOND.

P. S.—Our Lodge meets on the 18th, and will expect a report.

Yours, &c., J. M. C.

After reading the above letter, it was, on motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That the request of "Paterson Orange Lodge, No. 13," be granted.

An account was presented from Brother Joseph Justice, for printing done for the Grand Lodge, amounting to the sum of three dollars, which was ordered to be paid.

The Grand Secretary presented an account for cash paid for postage, amounting to the sum of one dollar and twenty-eight cents, which was ordered to be paid.

An account was presented by Brother Jazer Sickler, Junior Grand Warden, amounting to the sum of three dollars, for attending this Communication of the Grand Lodge, which was not allowed.

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be directed to pay to Brother Jonathan Brooks, Grand Chaplain, the sum of ten dollars, for his attendance at this Communication of the Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the Grand Tyler be allowed the sum of four dollars for his attendance on this Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, and after a short time spent at refreshment, was again called to labor, and proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were duly elected, viz:

Most Worshipful Elias Vanarsdale, Grand Master.
Right Worshipful Charles Burroughs, Deputy Grand Master.
" " William Kerwood, Senior Grand Warden.
" " Jesse Price, Junior Grand Warden.
" " John Mershon, Grand Secretary.
" " Daniel Hutchinson, Deputy Grand Secretary.
" " X. J. Maynard, Grand Treasurer.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments, viz:

Rev. & Worshipful Jonathan Brooks, Grand Chaplain.
WorshipfulElias I. Thompson, Grand Visitor.
" Samuel Disbrow, Grand Marshal.
" Jonathan R. Dunham, Grand Pursuivant.
" Solomon S. Chester, Senior Grand Deacon.
" Gabriel Davis, Junior Grand Deacon.
" Benjamin Young, Grand Steward.
" Jonathan C. Ball, Grand Steward.
Brother Samuel B. Scattergood, Grand Tyler.

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved That the Grand Treasurer be directed to sell the remaining share of stock held by the Grand Lodge in Trenton Bank, and apply the proceeds to the use of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge closed in harmony, to meet again on Tuesday, November 8th, A. D. 1836, A. L. 5836, unless, &c.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1836.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, November 8th, A. D. 1836, A. L. 5836, there being present:

M. W. CHAS. BURROUGHS, Grand Master, p. t.
R. W. WILLIAM KERWOOD, Grand Senior Warden, p. t.
R. W. P. P. VANDERHOOF, Grand Junior Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOHN MERSHON, Grand Secretary.
R. W. X. J. MAYNARD, Grand Treasurer.
REV. & R. W. JONA. BROOKS, Grand Chaplain.
W. ABNER PARKE, Grand Senior Deacon, p. t.
W. RICHARD ROUNSAVILLE, G. Junior Deacon, p. t.
BRO. SAMUEL B. SCATTERGOOD, Grand Tyler.

VISITING BRETHREN.

Alexander Dickerson, Jeremiah Stull, M. W. J. W. Scott, P. G. M.

And Representatives from the following Lodges, viz:

Henry C. Boswell, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
Wm. S. Bowen, George Ayars, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
P. P. Vanderhoof, Union Lodge, No. 12.
George Vail, Silas C. Cutler, Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.
Josiah Shivers, Samuel D. Wessell, Camden Lodge, No. 45.
Abner Parke, Richard Rounsaville, Lebanon Lodge, No. 54.
Jazer Sickler, Hiram Lodge, No. 58.

The Grand Lodge was opened in due form in the Third Degree of Masonry. The Throne of Grace was addressed by Brother Brooks, Grand Chaplain, when the Grand Lodge proceeded to business.

Brothers Boswell and Ayars were appointed a committee to examine the accounts of the Grand Treasurer.

Brothers Bowers and Parke were appointed a committee to examine the Foreign Correspondence.

The Grand Secretary reported,

Since the last Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, he had received communications from the following Grand Lodges, viz: Louisiana, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, Kentucky, Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Maine.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, until 2 o'clock, P. M.

At 2 o'clock, P. M., the Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

PRESENT.

M. W. CHAS. BURROUGHS, Grand Master, p. t.
R. W. WM. KERWOOD, Grand Senior Warden.
R. W. GEO. VAIL, Grand Junior Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOHN MERSHON, Grand Secretary.
R. W. X. J. MAYNARD, Grand Treasurer.
REV. & W. JONA. BROOKS, Grand Chaplain.
W. ABNER PARKE, Grand Senior Deacon, p. t.
W. RICH'D ROUNSAVILLE, Grand Junior Deacon, p. t.
BRO. SAMUEL B. SCATTERGOOD, Grand Tyler.

VISITING BRETHREN.—M. W. J. W. Scott, P. G. M., and others.

The committee appointed to examine the Grand Treasurer's accounts, made the following report:

The committee appointed to examine the Grand Treasurer's accounts, report that they have attended to that duty, find them correctly stated, with a balance in his hands of fifty-seven dollars and seventy-five cents. All of which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed.) GEORGE AYARS, HENRY C. BOSWELL, } *Committee.*

The committee appointed to examine the Foreign Correspondence, made the following report:

The committee appointed to examine the Foreign Correspondence, beg leave to report, that they have attended to that duty, and find the communications received by the Grand Secretary from the different Grand Lodges in the United States, to consist of extracts of the proceedings of the different Grand Lodges and the signatures of the Grand Officers. They find nothing contained in them that requires the attention of this Grand Lodge. They are pleased to find that the cause of Masonry is steadily advancing in our country, and the opposition to the Society rapidly subsiding. They recommend that the Grand Secretary be directed to transmit such extracts of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge as shall be published, to the several Grand Lodges of the United States.

(Signed.) ABNER PARKE, WM. S. BOWEN, } *Committee.*

Brother John Mershon, one of the committee appointed at the last Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge to settle an account due from Brother Thomas L. Woodruff, former Grand Treasurer, to this Grand Lodge, made the following report:

The committee appointed to settle an account due from Brother Thomas L. Woodruff, beg leave to report, that on examination they find the account to be as follows:

Cash invested in 1822	$300 00
Amount of dividends received	10 80
Cash received of Mr. Chas. M. Wells	75 62
14 years' interest on $300, at 6 per cent	252 00
14 years' interest on $10.80	8 40
6 years, 8 mo. and 3 days interest on $75.62	30 23
	$677 05
Cr. By 1 year's interest on $300	21 00
Balance due	$656 05

The committee were instructed to make a settlement on the best terms they could, and after several conferences with Brother Woodruff, he proposed giving his three notes, payable in one, two, and three years, without interest, for one hundred and fifty dollars each, which payments he says he will be able to meet. The committee believing those to be the best terms they could obtain, have taken the notes as above mentioned, subject, however, to the opinion of the Grand Lodge, whether those terms shall be agreed to.

(Signed.) John Mershon, one of the committee.

On motion made and seconded, the report of the committee, and terms of settlement were agreed to, and the notes handed to the Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Treasurer reported,

That, agreeably to an order of the Grand Lodge, at the last Annual Communication, he had sold the remaining share of stock in the Trenton Bank for the sum of forty dollars, and applied the proceeds to the use of the Grand Lodge.

On application made for that purpose, Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17, was allowed to resume its labors, on the payment of their dues for the last year.

It was recommended to the Lodges under the jurisdiction of

this Grand Lodge, which have not been represented in Grand Lodge for the last four or five years, to resume their Work, and send delegates to the next Annual Communication.

The Grand Secretary presented an account for postage, amounting to one dollar and twenty-seven cents, which was ordered to be paid.

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That the sum of ten dollars be paid to Brother Jona. Brooks, Grand Chaplain.

Ordered, That the sum of four dollars be paid to the Grand Tyler for services this day.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, and after a short time was again called to labor.

The Grand Lodge having gone through with all other business before them, proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were duly elected, viz:

Bro. Charles Burroughs, Most Worshipful Grand Master.
Wm. S. Bowen, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master.
Abner Parke, Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden.
George Vail, Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden.
John Mershon, Right Worshipful Grand Secretary.
Daniel Hutchinson, Right Worshipful Deputy G. Secretary.
X. J. Maynard, Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments, viz:

Rev. & Worshipful Jonathan Brooks, Grand Chaplain.
Worshipful E. I. Thompson, Grand Visitor.
" Richard Rounsaville, Grand Marshal.
" George Ayars, Grand Pursuivant.
" Henry C. Boswell, Senior Grand Deacon.
" James Hoy, Jr., Junior Grand Deacon.
" Jona. C. Ball, Richard Campbell, Grand Stewards.
Brother Samuel B. Scattergood, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Officers were then installed in their respective offices by our worthy Past Grand Master, Jos. W. Scott, Esq.

Grand Lodge closed, &c.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1837.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, November 14th, A. D. 1837, A. L. 5837.

PRESENT.

M. W. CHAS. BURROUGHS, Grand Master
R. W. ENOS F. RANDOLPH, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. DANIEL D. BRUEN, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOHN MERSHON, Grand Secretary.
R. W. DANIEL HUTCHINSON, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. X. J. MAYNARD, Grand Treasurer.
W. HUGH RUNYON, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
W. DANIEL H. COMBS, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
REV. & W. JONATHAN BROOKS, Grand Chaplain.

VISITING BROTHER.—Wm. Newburn.

Representatives from the following Lodges appeared and took their seats, viz:

Daniel H. Combs, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
Enos F. Randolph, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
James Price, Union Lodge, No. 12.
Silas C. Cutler, Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.
Jesse Hall, Camden Lodge, No. 45.
Daniel D. Bruen, Newark Lodge, No. 55.
Hugh Runyon, Clinton Lodge, No. 56.

The Grand Lodge was opened in due form in the Third Degree in Masonry; the Throne of Grace was addressed by the Rev. Grand Chaplain; the minutes of the last Grand Annual Communication were read and approved.

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, The dues of Newark Lodge, No. 55, for the years 1834 and 1835, be remitted on the payment of their dues for the years 1836 and 1837.

Brothers Randolph and Bruen were appointed a committee on the accounts of the Grand Treasurer.

Brothers Maynard and Mershon were appointed a committee to examine the Foreign Correspondence.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, until 2 o'clock, P. M.

Two o'clock, P. M., the Grand Lodge met.

PRESENT.

M. W. CHAS. BURROUGHS, Grand Master.
R. W. E. F. RANDOLPH, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. DANIEL D. BRUEN, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOHN MERSHON, Grand Secretary.
R. W. DANIEL HUTCHINSON, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. X. J. MAYNARD, Grand Treasurer.
REV. & W. JONA. BROOKS, Grand Chaplain.
W. H. C. BOSWELL, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. HUGH RUNYON, Junior Grand Deacon.
SILAS C. CUTLER.
JESSE HALL.
WILLIAM KERWOOD.

VISITING BROTHER.—Wm. Newburn.

The committee on the Grand Treasurer's accounts, made the following report:

The committee appointed to examine the Grand Treasurer's accounts, report that they have attended to that duty, and find his accounts correctly stated, and supported by the proper vouchers. They find a balance in his hands amounting to thirty-nine dollars and thirteen cents ($39.13). The committee further report, that they find in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, three notes of hand drawn by Thomas L. Woodruff, late Grand Treasurer, for one hundred and fifty dollars each, dated November 8th, 1836, payable in one, two, and three years from the date, and made payable to X. J. Maynard, Grand Treasurer, or to his successor or successors in office.

(Signed.) DANIEL B. BRUEN, ENOS F. RANDOLPH, } *Committee.*

Which report was agreed to, and the committee discharged.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence made the following report:

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report, that they have attended to the duties assigned them, and find that communications have been received from the Grand Lodges of New York, Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Maryland, Virginia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Florida, Kentucky, Ohio, and the Grand Lodge of Ireland. We find nothing in these communications that requires the action of the Grand Lodge at this time, except the one received from the Grand Lodge of New York. Your committee regret to find that difficulties have arisen among the brethren in the city, which originated with York Lodge, No. 367. It appears that that Lodge had resolved to have a procession, and celebrate the anniversary of St. John the Baptist, on the 26th June last. As this was contrary to the custom of the Grand Lodge, the Deputy Grand Master, in the absence of the Grand Master, and in the exercise of his duty, issued his proclamation forbidding such procession, and also went in person to the place of meeting on the morning of the said 26th June, and requested that the procession should not be formed; both of which were disregarded, and we regret to find that the Deputy Grand Master was treated in a disrespectful and unmasonic manner. In consequence of these proceedings of York Lodge, No. 367, the Grand Lodge, at their meeting on the 12th July last, expelled several of the brethren who had been most active in forming the procession and joining in the celebration. The expelled brethren then proceeded to form what they term a Grand Lodge, contrary to the Rules and Regulations of Masonry, and we regret to hear that their officers have been installed. Your committee are of opinion that this Grand Lodge should be sustained in their proceedings, and would recommend that no intercourse be held with the expelled Masons, or with what they call their Grand Lodge.

Your committee would recommend that the Grand Secretary be requested to forward such extracts of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge as shall be published, to the several Grand Lodges in the United States.

(Signed.) X. J. MAYNARD, JOHN MERSHON. } *Committee.*

The report was agreed to and the committee discharged.

On motion made and seconded, it was

Resolved, That the dues of Union Lodge, No. 12, for the years 1834 and 1835, be remitted, on the payment of their dues for 1836 and 1837.

An account was presented from James T. Sherman, amounting to three dollars, which was ordered to be paid.

An account was presented from Brother Joseph Justice, amounting to six dollars, which was ordered to be paid, and

also one from Brother Joseph Justice & Son, amounting to fourteen dollars and fifty cents, which was also ordered to be paid.

The Grand Secretary presented an account for cash expended by him for postage, &c., amounting to one dollar and fifteen cents, which was ordered to be paid.

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That the Grand Chaplain be allowed the sum of ten dollars for his attendance on this Grand Lodge. The Grand Tyler was allowed the sum of four dollars.

Brothers Maynard and Mershon were appointed a committee to endeavor to collect the amount of the note now due from Thomas L. Woodruff, late Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Lodge having gone through all other business before them, proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were duly elected, viz:

M. W. Chas. Burroughs, of Trenton, Grand Master.
R. W. Wm. S. Bowen, of Bridgeton, Deputy Grand Master.
" Daniel D. Bruen, of Newark, Senior Grand Warden.
" George Vail, of Morristown, Junior Grand Warden.
" John Mershon, of Trenton, Grand Secretary.
" Dan'l Hutchinson, do. Deputy Grand Secretary.
" X. J. Maynard, do. Grand Treasurer.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments, viz:

Rev. & W. Jonathan Brooks, Grand Chaplain.
W. Elias I. Thompson, Grand Visitor.
" Richard Rounsaville, Grand Marshal.
" George Ayres, Grand Pursuivant.
" Henry C. Boswell, Senior Grand Deacon.
" James Hoy, Jr., Junior Grand Deacon.
" Jonathan C. Ball, Richard Campbell, Grand Stewards.
Bro. Samuel B. Scattergood, Grand Tyler.

The Throne of Grace was then addressed, and a benediction pronounced by the Rev. Grand Chaplain, after which the Grand Lodge was closed in due form.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1838.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, November 13th, A. D. 1838, A. L. 5838.

PRESENT.

M. W. CHARLES BURROUGHS, Grand Master.
R. W. DANIEL D. BRUEN, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. JAZER SICKLER, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOHN MERSHON, Grand Secretary.
R. W. X. J. MAYNARD, Grand Treasurer.
Rev. & W. JONATHAN BROOKS, Grand Chaplain.
W. J. B. DAVIS, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
W. HALSEY CANFIELD, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
Bro. SAMUEL B. SCATTERGOOD, Grand Tyler.

Representatives from the following Lodges appeared and took their seats, viz:

Elias Vanarsdale, Jr., St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
Halsey Canfield, Joseph H. Hough, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
Enos F. Randolph, J. B. Davis, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
Daniel D. Bruen, Newark Lodge, No. 55.
Jazer Sickler, Hiram Lodge, No. 58.

The Grand Lodge was opened in due form, the Throne of Grace was addressed by the Grand Chaplain.

The minutes of the last Grand Annual Communication were read and approved.

The committee appointed at the last Annual Grand Communication on the claims held by this Grand Lodge against Thomas L. Woodruff, late Grand Treasurer, reported verbally, that they had not collected anything from him, but were assured by him that he would be able at no distant day to pay at least a part of the claim.

The report was agreed to and Committee ordered to be continued.

Brothers Randolph and Davis were appointed a committee to examine the Grand Treasurer's accounts.

Brothers Mershon and Maynard were appointed a committee to examine the Foreign Correspondence.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment until half-past two o'clock, P. M.

Half-past two o'clock, P. M., the Grand Lodge met.

PRESENT.

M. W. CHARLES BURROUGHS, Grand Master.
R. W. DANIEL D. BRUEN, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. E. F. RANDOLPH, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOHN MERSHON, Grand Secretary.
R. W. X. J. MAYNARD, Grand Treasurer.
REV. & W. JONATHAN BROOKS, Grand Chaplain.
W. J. B. DAVIS, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
W. HALSEY CANFIELD, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
BRO. SAMUEL B. SCATTERGOOD, Grand Tyler.
ELIAS VANARSDALE, JR.
JOSEPH H. HOUGH.

The committee appointed on the Grand Treasurer's accounts this morning, made the following report:

The committee appointed to examine the Grand Treasurer's accounts report, that they have examined the same and find them correctly stated, and a balance due to the Grand Treasurer of four dollars and forty-five cents ($4.45).

The committee further report, that they find in the hands of the Grand Treasurer three notes of one hundred and fifty dollars each, bearing date November 8th, 1836, payable at one, two, and three years after date, given by Thomas L. Woodruff to the Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey, payable to his order or to his sucessor in office.

Nov. 13th, A. L. 5838. ENOS F. RANDOLPH, JEREMIAH B. DAVIS } *Committee.*

The report was agreed to and the committee discharged.

The committee appointed to examine the Foreign Correspondence, made the following report:

The committee appointed to examine the Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report that they have attended to the duties assigned them, and

find that communications have been received during the last year from the following Grand Lodges, viz: the Grand Lodge of Ireland, New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, and Alabama.

They also find communications from a body of Masons, who call themselves St. John's Grand Lodge, of New York.

Among the communications received they find one from the Grand Lodge of New York, dated December 7th, 1837, in which is given the names of several clandestine Lodges in the city of New York, viz: Benevolent Lodge, No. 142, Silentia Lodge, York Lodge, Munn Lodge, reported to be held somewhere in the city of New York, Fidelity Lodge, Mount Libars Lodge, at Port au Prince, Hayti.

All the warrants of the above mentioned Lodges in the city of New York, have been annulled by the Grand Lodge, but retained by expelled Masons, except Munn Lodge, and that we presume has been granted by the self-styled St. John's Grand Lodge.

The following were the only legal Lodges in the city at the above-mentioned date, viz:

St. John's, No. 1; Independent Royal Arch Chapter, No. 2; Holland, No. 13; Trinity, No. 19; La Union Francaise, No. 71; Abrams, No. 83; Washington, No. 84; Adelphi, No. 91; Albion, No. 107; Mount Moriah, No. 132; Benevolent, No. 142. Under the new warrant granted by the Grand Lodge, December 6th, 1837: Mechanic's, No. 153; Concord, No. 304; German Union, No. 322; La Fayette, No. 373; Mariners' No. 385; Montgomery, No. 387; Naval, 391; Ancient, No. 507.

We also find a letter from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York, to the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge, calling his attention to a recommendation of his to that Grand Lodge, which was that of the propriety of recognizing as legitimate Masons, sojourning brethren who had been made in Lodges practising the French and Scottish Rites. The Grand Lodge of New York appointed a committee on the subject, who requested one year to make their report, and requested that the Grand Secretary should procure all the information he could, and correspond with other Grand Lodges on the subject.

There was also a recommendation by the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York, to that Grand Lodge, that in every Grand Lodge in correspondence with them, some well known and respectable brother of the rank of Past Master, be appointed as a representative of that Grand Lodge, at the discretion and on the warrant of the Grand Master; said representative to be a resident of the State or kingdom in which the Grand Lodge to which he is commissioned holds Masonic jurisdiction, and his duties to be prescribed by the Grand Lodge. And also that all foreign Grand Lodges in correspondence with them be allowed a resident representative, to be always clothed in the peculiar costume of the Grand

Lodges they severally represent, and to be allowed the privilege of speaking in Grand Lodge on all subjects of general interest to the Craft or the Grand Lodge they represent in particular, but without a vote.

The committee on the above mentioned subject would recommend that the same be referred to the Grand Officers, with power to correspond and ascertain where suitable brethren could be found to represent that Grand Lodge, in other Grand Lodges, and to receive the names of such persons as other Grand Lodges may be disposed to offer as representatives to that Grand Lodge, granting them the privileges set forth in the Grand Secretary's recommendation.

As respects the receiving and acknowledging brethren initiated into the secrets of Masonry according to the French and Scottish Rites, your committee would recommend that they be received, provided the ancient rites, ceremonies and landmarks of the Order have been adhered to in those ceremonies.

In regard to appointing brethren to reside near and represent this in other Grand Lodges in correspondence with us, and also allowing other Grand Lodges to appoint representatives to this Grand Lodge, your committee would heartily recommend, but inasmuch as the committee of the Grand Lodge recommended that the subject be referred to the Grand Officers of that Grand Lodge, your committee would recommend the same course to this Grand Lodge.

The Grand Secretary has taken no notice of the communication received from St. John's Grand Lodge, and has not sent them an extract of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, which course we trust will be approved by this Grand Lodge.

They find nothing further among the communications that requires the action of this Grand Lodge. They recommend that the Grand Secretary be requested to forward such extracts of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge as shall be published to all Grand Lodges in correspondence with this.

Trenton, Nov. 13th, 1838. (Signed.) JOHN MERSHON, X. J. MAYNARD, } *Committee.*

The report was agreed to and the committee discharged.

Brother Elias Vanarsdale, Jr., offered the following resolution, which was unanimously agreed to:

Resolved. That St. John's Lodge, No. 2, be allowed and permitted to resume its labors on the payment of their dues for the last year, or four dollars and twenty-five cents in lieu thereof, and that all other dues from said Lodge be remitted.

A certificate of the above resolution was given Brother Vanarsdale by the Grand Secretary.

Ordered, That the Grand Treasurer pay the Grand Secretary the sum of one dollar and fifty-three cents ($1.53), for money expended by him for postage, &c.

Ordered, That the Grand Treasurer pay the Grand Tyler the sum of four dollars ($4.00) (when in funds), for his services this day.

The Grand Lodge having gone through with all other business before them, proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were duly elected, viz:

M. W. Charles Burroughs, of Trenton, Grand Master.
R. W. William S. Bowen, of Bridgeton, Deputy Grand Master.
" Daniel B. Bruen, of Newark, Senior Grand Warden.
" George Vail, of Morristown, Junior Grand Warden.
" John Mershon, of Trenton, Grand Secretary
" Joseph H. Hough, do. Deputy Grand Secretary.
" X. J. Maynard, do. Grand Treasurer.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments, viz:

Rev. & W. Jonathan Brooks, Grand Chaplain.
W. Elias I. Thompson, Grand Visitor.
" Richard Rounsaville, Grand Marshal.
" George Ayres, Grand Pursuivant.
" Henry C. Boswell, Senior Grand Deacon.
" Halsey Canfield, Junior Grand Deacon.
" Jona. C. Ball, Richard Campbell, Grand Stewards.
Bro. Samuel B. Scattergood, Grand Tyler.

The Throne of Grace was then addressed by the Grand Chaplain, after which the Grand Lodge was closed in harmony, to meet again on Tuesday, November 12th, A. L. 5839, A. D. 1839.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1839.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, November 12th, A. L. 5839, A. D. 1839.

PRESENT.

M. W. CHAS. BURROUGHS, Grand Master.
R. W. WILLIAM S. BOWEN, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. GEORGE AYRES, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. ABNER PARKE, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOHN MERSHON, Grand Secretary.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. X. J. MAYNARD, Grand Treasurer.
W. WILLIAM KERWOOD, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
W. HALSEY CANFIELD, Junior Grand Deacon.
BRO. S. VANSICKLE, Grand Tyler.

Representatives from the following Lodges appeared and took their seats, viz.:

William Kerwood, Alvan Sanford, John J. Frisbee, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
George Ayres, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
John W. Mickle, Camden Lodge, No. 45.
Abner Parke, David Parke, Lebanon Lodge, No. 54.
William H. Earl, Newark Lodge, No. 55.

The Grand Lodge was opened in due form; the minutes of the last Annual Communication were read and approved.

Brothers Mickle and Frisbee were appointed a committee to examine the accounts of the Grand Treasurer. Brothers Maynard and Mershon were appointed a committee to examine the Foreign Correspondence.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment until 3 o'clock, P. M.

Three o'clock, P. M., the Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

PRESENT.

M. W. CHAS. BURROUGHS, Grand Master.
R. W. WILLIAM S. BOWEN, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. DANIEL B. BRUEN, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. ABNER PARKE, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOHN MERSHON, Grand Secretary.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. X. J. MAYNARD, Grand Treasurer.
W. WILLIAM KERWOOD, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
W. HALSEY CANFIELD, Junior Grand Deacon.
BRO. S. VANSICKLE, Grand Tyler.
JOHN J. FRISBEE.
WILLIAM H. EARL.
JOHN W. MICKLE.
ELIAS VANARSDALE, JR., P. G. M.
GEORGE AYRES.

VISITING BRETHREN—J. S. Darcy, P. G. M., Joseph Munn.

Brother Elias Vanarsdale, Jr., appeared as a representative from St. John's Lodge, No. 2, Newark, and took his seat.

The committee on the Grand Treasurer's Accounts made the following report:

The committee appointed to examine the Grand Treasurer's Accounts, report—that they have examined the same and find them correctly stated, and a balance remaining in his hands of twenty-four dollars and sixty-four cents; and the notes mentioned in report of last year still remaining unpaid.

(Signed) JOHN W. MICKLE, JOHN J. FRISBEE, } *Committee.*

November 12th, 5839.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence made the following report:

The committee appointed to examine the Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report—that they have attended to the duties assigned them, and find that communications have been received from the Grand Lodges of

Pennsylvania, New York, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Georgia, North Carolina, Maryland, Virginia, Kentucky, Indiana, Alabama, Missouri, Louisiana and the Territory of Texas.

They find nothing contained therein that requires the action of the Grand Lodge at this time.

It gives them pleasure to find that a Grand Lodge has been established in Texas, and have no doubt it will be equally pleasing to each member of this Grand Lodge.

They would recommend that the Grand Secretary be requested to forward a copy of such of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge as shall be published, to each Grand Lodge in correspondence with this Grand Lodge.

(Signed) JOHN MERSHON, X. J. MAYNARD, } *Committee.*

November 12th, 5839.

Brother Mickle stated that some difficulties had arisen in Camden Lodge, No. 45, in consequence of R. V. M. Cooper being made a Mason, (by Dispensation from the Grand Master,) in that Lodge, which difficulty arose in consequence of the seal of the Grand Lodge not being affixed to the Dispensation. After a free interchange of opinion on the subject by the members present, it was thought a matter of indifference whether the seal be attached to a Dispensation or not, and it was unanimously

Resolved, That that being the only objection, the making was good, and the members of the Lodge who acted on the occasion, be sustained by this Grand Lodge in their proceedings.

The following accounts were presented, which were ordered to be paid:

Joseph Justice, for printing	$6 00
Justice & Mills, "	5 00
Jos. Justice & Son "	16 50
John Mershon, Grand Secretary, to postage, &c.,	1 85

An account was presented from McCreedy & Steel, for advertising, amounting to two dollars, which was referred to the Grand Secretary.

Brother John S. Darcy, on behalf of St. John's Grand Lodge in the State of New York, made application to reconsider all former proceedings of this Grand Lodge in

relation to St. John's Grand Lodge aforesaid. Whereupon it was

Resolved, That Brothers Elias Vanarsdale, jr., Daniel Babbitt and Simeon Baldwin, be appointed a committee to investigate all matters of difference between the Grand Lodge of the State of New York and St. John's Grand Lodge aforesaid, which may be submitted to their consideration, and that they report to this Grand Lodge the result of their inquiries, and their opinions relative to the matters in controversy; and that they furnish each of the parties with copies of their report for their consideration.

Ordered, That the Grand Tyler be allowed the sum of four dollars for his attention this day.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, and after a short time spent at refreshment, was again called to labor.

The Grand Lodge having gone through with all other business before them, proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were duly elected, viz.:

Most Worshipful William S. Bowen, Grand Master.
Right Worshipful Daniel B. Bruen, Deputy Grand Master.
" " Henry A. Ford, Senior Grand Warden.
" " Abner Parke, Junior Grand Warden.
" " John Mershon, Grand Secretary.
" " Jos. H. Hough, Deputy Grand Secretary.
" " X. J. Maynard, Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Officers elect were then severally installed by Past Grand Master Brother John S. Darcy.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments, viz.:

Rev. & Worshipful Jonathan Brooks, Grand Chaplain.
Worshipful Elias I. Thompson, Grand Visitor.
" Richard Rounsaville, Grand Marshal.
" George Ayres, Grand Pursuivant.
" Henry C. Boswell, Grand Senior Deacon.
" Halsey Canfield, Grand Junior Deacon.

Worshipful Jonathan Ball, Grand Steward.
" Richard Campbell, "
Bro. Sylvester Vansickle, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge closed in harmony, to meet again on Tuesday, November 10th, A. L. 5840, unless sooner convened by the proper authority.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1840.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, November 10th, A. D. 1840, A. L. 5840.

PRESENT.

M. W. DANIEL B. BRUEN, Dep. Grand Master, as Grand Master.
R. W. ABNER PARKE, Junior Grand Warden, as Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. SAMUEL B. SCATTERGOOD, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOHN MERSHON, Grand Secretary.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. X. J. MAYNARD, Grand Treasurer.
Rev. & W. JONA. BROOKS, Grand Chaplain.
W. HENRY C. BOSWELL, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. HALSEY CANFIELD, Junior Grand Deacon.
W. RICHARD ROUNSAVILLE, Grand Marshal.
Bro. SYLVESTER VANSICKLE, Grand Tyler.

Visiting Brethren.—William Kerwood, representative of the Grand Lodge of New York; John Moore, of Corinthian Lodge, No. —; Caleb H. Valentine, Daniel Parke.

Representatives from the following Lodges appeared and took their seats, viz.:

John J. Frisbee, Alvan Sanford, Samuel B. Scattergood, Trenton Lodge, No. 5; George Ayres, Brearley Lodge, No. 9; Richard Rouneaville, Lebanon Lodge, No. 54; Moses Craig, Clinton Lodge, No. 56.

The Grand Lodge was opened in due form, and the Throne of Grace addressed by the Rev. Grand Chaplain. The minutes of the last Annual Grand Communication were read and approved.

Bros. Henry C. Boswell and Samuel B. Scattergood were appointed a committee to examine the Grand Treasurer's accounts.

Bros. X. J. Maynard, John J. Frisbee and Abner Parke, were appointed a committee to examine the Foreign Correspondence.

The Grand Secretary made the following report:

Since our last Annual Communication, I have received printed extracts of the proceedings of the several Grand Lodges with which we are in correspondence The committee appointed to examine the Foreign Correspondence, will find in the communication received from the Grand Lodge of New York, the correspondence between the committee appointed by this Grand Lodge at the last Annual Communication, and the Grand Lodge of New York, relative to St. John's Grand Lodge, which, I presume, will be fully reported by that committee.

In recording the proceedings of the last Annual Communication, I unintentionally omitted to mention that the Grand Lodge refused to reconsider their former proceeding in relation to St. John's Grand Lodge, as moved by Bro. John S. Darcy, but I have no doubt it will be remembered by each member who was then present, that this committee was appointed after the Grand Lodge had refused to reconsider their proceedings in relation to the said St. John's Grand Lodge, in 1837 and 1838, and then not with any intention of calling in question, or censuring any act of the Grand Lodge of New York, but merely to endeavor to bring about a reconciliation between the parties, and restore harmony among our brethren.

Since our last Annual Communication, Brother William Kerwood, a Past Master of Trenton Lodge, No. 5, has been appointed by the Grand Lodge of New York their representative in this.

I have received from Bro. James D. Westcott, Jr., of Florida, a copy, neatly bound, of an oration delivered by him at the Masonic Funeral of Col. Abraham Bellamy, at Monticello, Jefferson county, Florida, Septem-

ber 23d, 5839. Also, from Bro. James Herring, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York, a copy of an oration delivered by him on the origin, design and duties of Free Masonry, in the city of Troy, on the 24th June, 5840.

On the 23d of March last, our Most Worshipful Grand Master appointed Bro. Sylvester Spencer, of New York, to represent this Grand Lodge in the Grand Lodge of New York. Bro. Spencer's commission will expire at this meeting of the Grand Lodge; I would recommend his re-appointment.

The account presented by McCreedy & Steel, which was presented at our last Annual Communication, and which was referred to me, I find, on inquiry, was paid to Bro. Joseph Justice, and by him paid to them.

JOHN MERSHON, *Grand Secretary.*

November 10th, A. L. 5840.

The report was agreed to.

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to open a correspondence with all foreign Grand Lodges, who have resident representatives in any Grand Lodge in the United States or Territories.

The following accounts were presented and ordered to be paid, viz.:

Justice & Mills	$10 00
Charles Scott	4 00
John Mershon, Grand Secretary, for postage and paper	2 00

The Grand Secretary presented an account for three years' salary, at thirty dollars per annum, amounting to ninety dollars, on which he had received the sum of ten dollars, leaving a balance of eighty dollars due him. He stated that in consequence of the low state of the funds, he knew the Grand Lodge could not pay it at this time, but wished to call the attention of the Grand Lodge to his claim.

On motion made and seconded, it was unanimously

Resolved, That the account be acknowledged, and that the Grand Treasurer be instructed to pay the same when in funds, to him or his legal representatives.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment until 2 o'clock, P. M.

At 2 o'clock, P. M. the Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

PRESENT.

M. W. DANIEL B. BRUEN, Deputy Grand Master, as Grand Master.
R. W. ELIAS VANARSDALE, Jr., Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. SAMUEL B. SCATTERGOOD, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOHN MERSHON, Grand Secretary.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. X. J. MAYNARD, Grand Treasurer.
REV. & W. JONA. BROOKS, Grand Chaplain.
W. H. C. BOSWELL, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. HALSEY CANFIELD, Junior Grand Deacon.
W. RICHARD ROUNSAVILLE, Grand Marshal.
BRO. SYLVESTER VANSICKLE, Grand Tyler.
" JOHN S. DARCY, Past Grand Master.
" CHARLES BURROUGHS, Past Grand Master.
" ABNER PARKE, Junior Grand Warden.

VISITING BRETHREN.—William Kerwood, representative of the Grand Lodge of New York; Caleb H. Valentine, J. T. Thompson, M. Ryerson, David Parke.

And representatives from the following Lodges, viz.:

Elias Vanarsdale, Jr., Thomas Mandeville, James S. Gamble, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.

John J. Frisbee, Alvan Sanford, Samuel B. Scattergood, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

George Ayres, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

William H. Earl, Newark Lodge, No. 55.

Richard Rounsaville, Lebanon Lodge, No. 54.

Moses Craig, Clinton Lodge, No. 56.

The committee appointed to examine the Foreign Correspondence made the following report:

The committee appointed to examine the Foreign Correspondence, beg leave to report—that they find communications from the following Grand Lodges: New York, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia,

Florida, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Alabama, Mississippi and Missouri, and that they find nothing therein contained which requires the action of this Grand Lodge, except that from the Grand Lodge of New York, which has been included in the Grand Secretary's report, this day presented and accepted.

Your committee would recommend that the Grand Secretary be directed to forward such extracts of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge as shall be published, to each of the Grand Lodges in correspondence with this.

November 10th, A. D. 1840, A. L. 5840.

X. J. MAYNARD,
JOHN J. FRISBEE, } *Committee.*
ABNER PARKE,

The report was agreed to and the committee discharged.

The committee appointed to examine the Grand Treasurer's accounts made the following report:

The committee appointed to examine the Grand Treasurer's accounts respectfully report—that they have attended to that duty, find his vouchers and accounts correctly stated, with a balance in his hands of three dollars and fifty-four cents.

(Signed) HENRY C. BOSWELL,
SAM'L B. SCATTERGOOD, } *Committee.*

Trenton, November 10th, A. D. 1840, A. L. 5840.

The report was agreed to and the committee discharged.

The committee appointed at the last Annual Communication to "investigate all matters of difference between the Grand Lodge of New York and St. John's Grand Lodge in the city of New York, which might be submitted to their consideration," made the following report, accompanied by sundry documents, marked No's 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8.

To the Most Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey:

The committee appointed at the last Annual Communication of said Lodge to investigate all matters of difference between the Grand Lodge of the State of New York and St. John's Grand Lodge of said State, which might be submitted to their consideration, respectfully report—that on the 18th day of February last, your committee, through their chairman, addressed a communication (marked No. 1, hereto annexed,) to the Grand Secretaries of each of the aforesaid Grand Lodges, respectively, enclosing the resolution of your Grand Lodge, (marked No. 2,) of the 12th of November last; and also, an extract of the proceedings of your Grand Lodge (marked No. 3,) of 14th November, 1837; that on the 20th of March last

your committee received from the Grand Secretary of St. John's Grand Lodge of the State of New York, an extract of the proceedings of said Lodge, (marked No. 4,) in relation to said communication; that on or about the 1st of May last, your committee received from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, a letter, (marked No. 5,) conveying the views of the Grand Officers of said Lodge, (marked No. 6,) in answer to said communication; that on the 4th day of November instant, your committee received from the Grand Officers of St. John's Grand Lodge aforesaid, a communication signed by them (marked No. 7,) and also a certificate (marked No. 8,) relating to the matters in difference between the aforesaid Grand Lodges, with a request that your committee would lay the same before this Grand Lodge; that the officers of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York having declined meeting your committee, as requested by them, your committee have been unable to carry into effect the resolution under which they were appointed. The Grand Lodge will perceive that while St. John's Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and its officers, have been willing and desirous to afford your committee every facility in their power to aid them in the discharge of their duties, the officers of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York have taken the responsibility upon themselves of refusing to meet your committee without submitting to said Lodge the communication sent their Secretary as aforesaid, as therein requested, and have moreover affected to consider the resolution of your Grand Lodge appointing your committee, as an insulting proposition to them. Your committee cannot therefore, under existing circumstances, close this report without recommending that so much of the proceedings of your Grand Lodge as agreed to the report of the committee made on the 14th November, 1837, be reconsidered.

(Signed) ELIAS VANARSDALE, D. BABBITT, SIMEON BALDWIN, } *Committee.*

Dated 6th November, 1840.

The report, and also the accompanying documents, were read, disagreed to, and the committee discharged.

Brother Kerwood offered the following preamble and resolutions, which were ordered to lie on the table:

Whereas, This Grand Lodge was officially notified in the year A. L. 5837, by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, that certain persons under that jurisdiction had been expelled, and the warrants of certain Lodges under that jurisdiction had been annulled, and was afterwards *further notified* that the expelled Masons had formed, in the city of New York, a clandestine body, called "St. John's Grand Lodge;" *and whereas*, this Grand Lodge, at their Annual Communication in November, A. L.

5837, did unanimously agree to sustain the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and recommend that "no intercourse be held with the said expelled Masons, or what they call their Grand Lodge;" which sentiments were repeated in November, A. L. 5838, in accordance with the decisions of all the Grand Lodges of the Union in which the subject had been examined; *and whereas*, this Grand Lodge, in November, A. L. 5839, *refused to reconsider their former proceedings*, yet did, at the earnest entreaty of the Most Worshipful John S. Darcy, appoint a committee for purposes entirely beyond the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and the Grand Lodge of the State of New York having "declined to submit their lawful acts to the revisions of any committee," therefore

Be it resolved, That this committee be discharged.

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of New Jersey regards the Grand Lodges of the several States and Territories of this Union, which have been heretofore recognized as *holding exclusive jurisdiction* within the limits of those States and Territories, and will regard any attempt to violate this principle *in this* or any other *State* or Territory, as an innovation in the established regulations of the fraternity, tending to its destruction.

Resolved, That the attempt which has been made in the city of New York by certain expelled Masons and their associates, to establish a Masonic Jurisdiction there, has the unqualified reprobation of this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That all intercourse between the Lodges or Masons of New Jersey, and the clandestine association called "St. John's Grand Lodge of the State of New York," or any of its members, be and is hereby *strictly* forbidden.

The Grand Secretary offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge will adhere to the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and to the recommendation as respects St. John's Grand Lodge in the city of New York, and adopted by this Grand Lodge in the years 1837 and 1838.

On motion made and seconded, it was unanimously

Resolved, That the Right Worshipful Sylvester Spencer, of the city of New York, be re-appointed to represent this Grand Lodge in the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

Ordered, That the Grand Tyler be allowed the sum of four dollars for his attendance this day.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, and after a short time was again called to labor.

Brother Kerwood offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of New Jersey regards the Grand Lodges of the several States and Territories of this Union, which have been heretofore recognized as holding *exclusive jurisdiction* within the limits of those States and Territories; and will regard any attempt to violate this principle, *in this* or any other *State or Territory*, as an innovation in the established regulations of the fraternity.

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That the Dispensation granted by the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master to Newark Lodge, No. 55, to hold their meetings out of the bounds of the city of Newark, be and the same is hereby continued until the next Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge.

On motion of Brother Abner Parke, it was unanimously

Resolved, That Mansfield Lodge, No. 31, be restored to their former number and standing; *provided*, they send representatives at the next Annual Communication and pay their dues for the ensuing year.

The Grand Lodge having gone through with all other business before them, proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were duly elected:

M. W. William S. Bowen, of Bridgeton, Grand Master.
R. W. Daniel B. Bruen, of Newark, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. Abner Parke, of New Hampton, Grand Warden.
R. W. William A. Earl, of Newark, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. John Mershon, of Trenton, Grand Secretary.
R. W. Joseph H. Hough, of Trenton, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. X. J. Maynard, of Trenton, Grand Treasurer.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments:

Rev. & W. Jonathan Brooks, Grand Chaplain.
W. Elias I. Thompson, Grand Visitor.
W. Richard Rounsaville, Grand Marshal.
W. George Ayres, Grand Pursuivant.
W. Henry C. Boswell, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. Halsey Canfield, Junior Grand Deacon.
W. Richard Campbell, Grand Steward.
W. Henry Parke, "
Bro. Sylvester Vansickle, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Officers elect were then installed into their respective offices, after which the Throne of Grace was addressed and a benediction pronounced by the Rev. Grand Chaplain, and the Grand Lodge closed in harmony to meet again on Tuesday, November the 9th, A. D. 1841, A. L. 5841, unless sooner convened by the proper authority.

JOHN MERSHON,
Grand Secretary.

Trenton, November 10th, A. D. 1840, A. L. 5840.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1841.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, November 9th, A. D. 1841, A. L. 5841.

PRESENT.

M. W. ABNER PARKE, Senior Grand Warden, as Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN VANTILBURGH, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. WILLIAM H. EARL, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOHN MERSHON, Grand Secretary.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. X. J. MAYNARD, Grand Treasurer.
REV. & W. JONA. BROOKS, Grand Chaplain.
W. DAVID PARKE, Senior Grand Deacon p. t.
W. HALSEY CANFIELD, Junior Grand Deacon.
W. SYLVESTER VANSICKLE, Grand Tyler.
RT. W. WILLIAM KERWOOD, Representative of the Grand Lodge of New York.

VISITING BROTHER—Joseph W. Lee.

And representatives from the following Lodges, viz.:

John Vantilburgh, David Witherup, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
Jeremiah B. Davis, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
David Parke, Lebanon Lodge, No. 54.

The Grand Lodge was opened in due form, and the Throne of Grace addressed by the Grand Chaplain. The minutes of the last Annual Communication were read and approved.

Brothers David Parke and Halsey Canfield were appointed a committee to examine the Grand Treasurer's accounts.

Brothers Jeremiah B. Davis and John Vantilburgh were appointed a committee to examine the Foreign Correspondence.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment until 2 o'clock P. M.

At two o'clock P. M. the Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

PRESENT.

M. W. DANIEL B. BRUEN, Deputy Grand Master, as Grand Master.
R. W. ABNER PARKE, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. WILLIAM H. EARL, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOHN MERSHON, Grand Secretary.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. X. J. MAYNARD, Grand Treasurer.
Rev. & W. JONA. BROOKS, Grand Chaplain.
W. DAVID PARKE, Senior Grand Deacon p. t.
W. HALSEY CANFIELD, Junior Grand Deacon.
W. SYLVESTER VANSICKLE, Grand Tyler.
Rt. W. WILLIAM KERWOOD, Representative of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

Visiting Brethren.—J. B. Munn, Past Grand Master; J. S. Darcy, Past Grand Master; E. Vanarsdale, Past Grand Master; Charles Burroughs, Past Grand Master; L. Goble, J. R. Crockett, P. Alling, J. C. Little, Joseph W. Lees.

Representatives from the following Lodges appeared and took their seats, viz.:

John Vantilburgh, David Witherup, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
Jacob Alyea, S. Smith, J. Hollingworth, St. John's Lodge, No. 2.
Jeremiah B. Davis, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.
David Parke, Lebanon Lodge, No. 54.

The Grand Secretary made the following report, which was accepted:

The Grand Secretary, in making his annual report, would beg leave to begin with the reception of our representative, the Worshipful Sylvester Spencer, in the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

At a meeting of that Grand Lodge on the 3d of March last, the Right Worshipful James Herring, Grand Secretary, informed the Grand Lodge that the Grand Lodge of New Jersey had appointed the Worshipful Sylvester Spencer their representative, and that the Worshipful Brother was now in waiting for reception. The Grand Master requested the Grand Secretary to introduce the Worshipful Brother. Worshipful Brother Spencer being clothed in the peculiar costume of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, was conducted to the East, through the dense ranks of the Fraternity assembled, who remained standing through the ceremony of reception.

The Grand Secretary addressed the Most Worshipful Grand Master as follows:

Most Worshipful Brother:—I have the honor to present our Worthy and Worshipful Brother, Sylvester Spencer, Past Master of Manhattan Lodge, No. 62, who, at the Annual Communication of the Right Worthy Grand Lodge of New Jersey, in November last, was appointed to represent that body in this Grand Lodge, of which official information has been received. I am confident this appointment will prove highly satisfactory to the members of both Grand Lodges, as his appointment and reception, as well as the appointment and reception of Worshipful Brother Kerwood, our representative in the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, affords the surest evidence that the two Grand Lodges are determined to stand, not only geographically, but masonically, side by side in support of each other's integrity, honor and independence.

The Grand Master then greeted the representative of New Jersey in the following words:

Worshipful Brother Spencer:—The firm and decided stand which the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Jersey has taken in support of the rights and honor of this Grand Lodge, has secured our warmest welcome to their representative. Between two Masonic governments, so contiguous as those of New Jersey and New York, the utmost harmony and friendship ought to be cultivated and cherished, as well for the honor and repose of our noble institution as for the prosperity and happiness of

the Fraternity under the jurisdiction of each. Whatever occurs within the territory of either Grand Body, for good or for ill, must affect the other equally. A common interest, therefore, would seem to require a more intimate correspondence than has hitherto existed, and I fervently hope that the measures which have been adopted may secure the union of both Grand Lodges in friendship and brotherly love. I present the right hand of fellowship on behalf of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, to the representative of the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey.

To which Worshipful Brother Spencer made the following reply:

Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master:—The right hand of fellowship so feelingly tendered, I most gratefully receive as a symbol of the union of the Masonic governments which we respectively represent. The allusions you have been pleased to make relative to the course taken by the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey, through the trying season of rebellion with which this Grand Lodge has had to contend, call on me to return you my sincere thanks on their behalf, and to express the feelings of pleasure which animate my breast, at the proud position of this Grand Lodge in having maintained a stand which has proved so signally triumphant, and which has elicited not only the approvals, but the admiration of the Grand Body, as the representative of which I now address you. I shall deem it a pleasing duty at all times to be the medium of communication between the two Grand Bodies, and beg leave, Right Worshipful, in behalf of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, to wish you a long career of undisturbed repose, and pledge you the aid and co-operation of my constituents in all your trials, whether present or to come, so long as you pursue the same firm and incorruptible course that has heretofore marked your career.

The representative of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey was then seated in the East, in front of the Grand Officers.

On the 1st of August last, I received from Brother Spencer a letter addressed to him by Brother Joseph Persson, Worshipful Master of Hibernia Lodge, No. 57, and Representative of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, on the subject of the members of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, Newark, visiting St. John's Grand Lodge in the city of New York, and the Lodges warranted by it, and also admitting the members of those Clandestine Lodges to visit their Lodge; to which subject I wish to call the attention of the Grand Lodge.

COPY OF BRO. PERSSONS' LETTER.

New York, April 21st, 1841.

To the Worshipful Sylvester Spencer, Representative of the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey:

Worshipful Brother:—In compliance with the official request made on behalf of the Grand Lodge which you represent, I proceed to give you

such particulars as came within my observation, of the conduct of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, Newark, New Jersey, on the occasion of a visit which I made them in the latter part of the summer or early in the autumn of last year. I was invited on that occasion by a brother of that Lodge to visit them on the evening in question; and also informed, that Brother Pruden Alling, who was officiating as Master, would be pleased if I would confer some degrees for them that evening. I felt flattered by the request and very readily accepted the invitation, and visited the Lodge accordingly. Shortly after the Lodge was opened, however, an application was made for admission by a brother hailing from "St. Simon and St. Judes Lodge, New York." I immediately turned to Brother Alling, who was in the chair, and informed him there was no such Lodge as St. Simon and St. Judes in New York. He replied, "Yes, there is," and I stoutly maintained the negative, at the same time observing that there were a number of clandestine Lodges in New York, made up of expelled Masons and their associates, who had constituted what they called a Grand Lodge, and called it St. John's Grand Lodge, and that probably the person desiring admission might hail from a Lodge under that jurisdiction. Worshipful Brother Alling replied, that he considered St. John's Grand Lodge as legitimate a Lodge as any other Grand Lodge, and that if the person applying for admission did hail from that jurisdiction, he should admit him as freely as he would from any other body whatever, or words to a similar purport. And he added, "that he not only would admit any person hailing from the (so called) St. John's Grand Lodge, or any of its Subordinates, but that he, and the Lodge over which he was then presiding, had uniformly done so." He contended that the said clandestine body was regularly installed by a Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey, and he intimated that they were an abused and persecuted body, and that the legitimate Grand Lodge of this State were in fault. The name of Henry C. Atwood was mentioned, and Brother Alling admitted that the said Atwood was a favored visitor of his Lodge, and prided himself in having so distinguished a Mason to come and work among them, which Brother Alling said he had frequently done, and he should do again whenever his services could be obtained. This Mr. Henry C. Atwood, be it known, is the Deputy Grand Master of this St. John's Grand Lodge, and was the master spirit of the fallen Masons and their great leader. That a person so obnoxious to all genuine Masons should be lauded and held forth by the presiding officer of a legitimate Lodge as an estimable Mason, and one who he and they not only did, but would continue to countenance and support, with a full knowledge of his acts, and of the Masonic interdict under which he labored, excited in me feelings of indignation against Brother Alling, which I could ill repress, even in the midst of the body of which I was then a visitor. I denounced

the conduct of St. John's Lodge at Newark, and told them at once that I would not sit with a body that associated with clandestine Masons, and thereupon withdrew from the Lodge. I took care, however, before leaving the Lodge, that I had nothing to do with Mr. Atwood's character as a man; that I had known that gentleman for a number of years, and that I only referred to his Masonic character when his name was eulogized among them. On retiring from the Lodge several of the brethren followed me, whose names I do not recollect, with the exception of my own brother, Mr. Alexander T. Persson, who is a member of that Lodge, and who followed me out with the others. I walked with my brother to his store, where the other retiring brethren soon followed us, and informed me that I was mistaken in supposing that the brother applying for admission hailed from the clandestine body in New York before named. This St. Simon and St. Judes Lodge, it appears, was one of the country Lodges in the State of New York, and the brother applying a member in good standing. With the explanation I was invited to return to the Lodge, which I did, for the purpose of ascertaining how far the brethren invidually sustained Brother Alling, and also of remonstrating with them further on the course they were pursuing, but on arriving at the Lodge room I found the Lodge was just closed, a few of the brethren still in the room. One of the brethren who was at the outer door of the Lodge room on my return, accosted me rather roughly; this brother was either the Tyler or the Junior Deacon of the Lodge. He said that he had received his degrees at the hands of Mr. (Brother) Atwood, who had conferred them on him in that very Lodge, (St. John's Lodge, Newark.) He went on further to say, that he believed Mr. Atwood was as good, if not a better Mason, than I was; that Mr. Atwood was a particular friend of his; he had known him for years, and that he was a gentleman, &c. I told this illegitimate brother, that with Mr. Atwood's goodness or gentility I had nothing to do; that it was only with Mr. Atwood as a Mason I was any way concerned, and that I regretted much that the bonds of Masonic fellowship which had heretofore existed between Mr. Atwood and myself were severed. I also told this benighted brother that I would not recognize him as a Mason, he having received his degrees from Mr. Atwood.

I am, Worshipful Brother,

Yours, Fraternally,

(Signed) Jos. P. Persson,

Worshipful Master of Hibernia Lodge, No. 57, New York; Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge, and Representative of the Grand Lodge of Georgia; P. G. C. of Morton's Encampment.

I would also call the attention of the Grand Lodge to a resolution of the Grand Lodge of Alabama, at their Annual Communication in 1839, which is as follows:

Resolved, That all Grand Lodges in correspondence with the Grand Lodge of Alabama, be requested to elect one delegate to meet in general convention on the first Monday in March, 1842, in the city of Washington, for the purpose of determining upon a uniform mode of work throughout all the Lodges in the United States, and to make other lawful regulations for the interest and security of the Craft.

On the 14th of July last I received a letter from the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary of that Grand Lodge on the subject, which answered and promised to bring the subject before this Grand Lodge. I find by a circular received from the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, that they have appointed a delegate, and request other Grand Lodges to do the same.

Our worthy Brother James Herring, Right Worshipful Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, has issued proposals for publishing a Masonic work, which promises to be highly useful and interesting to the Craft. A copy of the prospectus is on my table for the inspection and signatures of the brethren present. Soon after the extracts of proceedings of our last Annual Communication were published, I forwarded to our representative in New York, the Worshipful Brother Spencer, two copies for each of the representatives of foreign Grand Lodges resident of the city of New York; one copy for their own use, the other to be transmitted to their respective Grand Lodges. Brother Spencer informed me soon after that he had attended to my request.

Together with the Lodges which formed this Grand Lodge, there has been fifty-eight warranted in this State. Washington Lodge, No. 12, and Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 27, both in the city of New Brunswick, united, a few years ago, under the name of Union Lodge, retaining No. 12, which leave the number 57. Of this number but eight can be called working Lodges, viz.: St. John's Lodge, No. 2; Trenton Lodge, No. 5; Brearley Lodge, No. 9; Camden Lodge, No. 45; Lebanon Lodge, No. 54; Newark Lodge, No. 55; Clinton Lodge, No. 56; and Hiram Lodge, No. 58.

Seven Lodges have been stricken off, viz.: Hiram, No. 4; Union, No. 6; Unity, No. 7; Trinity, No. 20; Sandystown, No. 24; Hiram, No. 25; and Princeton, No. 30.

Nine Lodges have surrendered their warrants, viz.: Trinity, No. 3; Nova Cæsarea, No. 10; Federal, No. 15; Augusta, No. 23; St. Tammany, No. 28; Chatham, No. 33; Dennis Creek, No. 36; Franklin, No. 37; and Bloomfield, No. 48.

Thirty-three have ceased working, but retain their warrants, viz.: Solomon's Lodge, No. 1; Harmony, No. 8; Woodbury, No. 11; Union, No. 12; Passaic, No. 13; Farmers, No. 14; Olive Branch, No. 16; Cincinnati, No. 17; Mount Holly, No. 18; Salem, No. 19; Union, No. 21; Friendship, No. 22; Hope, No. 26; Independence, No. 29; Mansfield,

No. 31; Sharptown, No. 32; Shrewsbury Washington, No. 34; Cedarville, No. 35; Pittstown, No. 38; Allowaystown, No. 39; Jerusalem, No. 40; Washington, No. 41; Deerfield, No. 42; Tuckerton, No. 43; Essex, No. 44; Euclid, No. 46; Cranbury, No. 47; Lafayette, No. 49; Dove, No. 50; Corinthian, No. 51; Warren, No. 52; Franklin, No. 53; Mount Vernon, No. 57.

I would recommend that the Grand Secretary be directed, when he advertises for the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, to give notice that all Lodges that are not there represented, or have not been, for the three years preceding, be stricken from the list of Lodges, and that the remaining Lodges be then renumbered.

JOHN MERSHON, *G. Secretary.*

November 9th, 1841.

The committee appointed to examine the Grand Treasurer's account, made the following report:

The committee to examine the Grand Treasurer's account respectfully report—that they have attended to that duty, find his account and vouchers correctly stated, with a balance in his hands of nineteen dollars and sixteen cents.

(Signed) DAVID PARKE, HALSEY CANFIELD, } *Committee.*

Trenton, November 9th, 1861.

The committee appointed to examine the Foreign Correspondence, beg leave to report:

That they have attended to the duties assigned them, and find communications have been received from the Grand Lodges of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Missouri, Alabama, Mississippi and Texas. Those communications consist, principally, of extracts of proceedings of the several Grand Lodges; they find nothing, however, that requires the action of this Grand Lodge, except what has been referred to in the Grand Secretary's report. It affords your committee great pleasure to find that the prejudice which existed against our fraternity a few years ago has subsided, and that within the last year many have been added to the Lodges in almost all parts of the United States. Your committee would recommend that the Grand Secretary forward to each Grand Lodge in correspondence with this, such extracts of proceedings as shall be published.

JEREMIAH B. DAVIS, JOHN VANTILBURGH, } *Committee.*

November 9th, 1841.

The committee on the claims of the Grand Lodge against Thomas L. Woodruff, late Grand Treasurer, made the following report:

The committee appointed on the claims of the Grand Lodge against Thomas L. Woodruff, late Grand Treasurer, beg leave to report—that they have attended to the duties assigned them, but not been able to collect any part of the demand. They have, however, got the notes renewed and the interest added thereto. The notes are dated the 8th of the present month (November), payable in one, two and three years; they are for $186, $177 and $168, making together the sum of $531.

JOHN MERSHON, } *Committee.*
X. J. MAYNARD, }

Trenton, November 9th, 1861.

There being no evidence before the Grand Lodge that St. John's Lodge, No. 2, Newark, had admitted members from St. John's Grand Lodge, New York, or its Subordinates, to visit their Lodge, or that any of their members had visited those clandestine bodies during the last year, Brother Perssons' letter to Brother Spencer, on that subject, was ordered to lie on the table.

The communication from the Grand Lodge of Alabama, on the subject of appointing delegates to meet at the city of Washington on the first Monday in March, 1842, for the purpose of agreeing upon a uniform mode of work, and making other lawful regulations for the interest and benefit of the Craft, was ordered to lie on the table.

On motion made and seconded, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to give information to all dormant Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, that if they send representatives at the next Annual Communication, and pay one year's dues, they shall be restored to their former standing.

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That Mansfield Lodge, No. 31, retain their warrant and jewels, and have until the next Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge to reorganize, send representatives and make their return.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, and after a short time was again called to labor, when

they proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were duly elected, viz.:

M. W. Daniel B. Bruen, of Newark, Grand Master.
R. W. Abner Parke, of New Hampton, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. William H. Earl, of Newark, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. Jeremiah B. Davis, of Bridgton, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. John Mershon, of Trenton, Grand Secretary.
R. W. Joseph H. Hough, of Trenton, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. X. J. Maynard, of Trenton, Grand Treasurer.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments:

Rev. & W. Jonathan Brooks, Grand Chaplain.
W. Elias 1. Thompson, Grand Visitor.
W. Rounsaville, Grand Pursuivant.
W. Halsey Canfield, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. John Vantilburgh, Junior Grand Deacon.
W. Elias Phillips, Grand Steward.
W. Harvey Parke, "
Bro. Sylvester Vansyckel, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Officers were then duly installed in their respective offices.

On motion made and seconded, it was unanimously

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer pass to the credit of the Grand Secretary the sum of thirty dollars, for salary for the past year.

Ordered, That the Grand Treasurer pay the Grand Tyler the sum of four dollars for his attendance this day.

The Throne of Grace was then addressed, and a benediction pronounced by the Rev. Grand Chaplain, when the Grand Lodge closed in harmony, to meet again on the second Tuesday in November, A. D. 1842, A. L. 5842, which will be on the 8th day of the month, unless sooner convened by the proper authority.

The following accounts were ordered to be paid previous to the election of Grand Officers, viz.:

Joseph Justice, for printing, &c.	$12 50
Justice & Mills, "	3 00
John Mershon, Grand Secretary, for postage, &c.	3 34
	$18 84

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1842.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, November 8th, A. L. 5842, A. D. 1842.

PRESENT.

M. W. DANIEL B. BRUEN, Grand Master.
R. W. WILLIAM H. EARL, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. JEREMIAH B. DAVIS, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOHN MERSHON, Grand Secretary.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. X. J. MAYNARD, Grand Treasurer.
Rev. & W. JONATHAN BROOKS, Grand Chaplain.
W. HALSEY CANFIELD, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. JOHN VANTILBURGH, Junior Grand Deacon.
W. GEORGE AYRES, Grand Marshal.
W. ELIAS PHILLIPS, Grand Steward.
Bro. SYLVESTER VANSICKEL, Grand Tyler.
R. W. WILLIAM KERWOOD, representative of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

Visiting Brethren—Isaac Barnes and Aaron S. Longstreet.

Representatives from the following Lodges appeared and took their seats, viz.:

John J. Frisbee, S. B. Scattergood and Alvan Sanford, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

Enos F. Randolph, George Ayres, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

William Mason, William French, Tuckerton Lodge, No. 43.

William H. Parke, Isaac Smith and William P. Sanno, Lebanon Lodge, No. 54.

B. West, Newark Lodge, No. 55.

Moses Craig, Clinton Lodge, No. 56.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form, the Throne of Grace was addressed by the Grand Chaplain, the minutes of the last Annual Grand Communication were read and approved, after which the Grand Lodge proceeded to business.

Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17, made application to be restored to their former standing in this Grand Lodge, and on motion made and seconded, it was

Resolved, That they be restored, provided they pay one year's dues, and remake or heal two members which they have lately made, which making this Grand Lodge declares to be illegal.

Brothers Jeremiah B. Davis and John Vantilburgh were appointed a Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Brothers Halsey Canfield and Elias Phillips were appointed a Committee to examine the Grand Treasurer's accounts.

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That Tuckerton Lodge, No. 43, be restored to their former standing in this Grand Lodge, on the payment of one year's dues, which condition was complied with.

The Grand Secretary made the following report, which was accepted:

Agreeably to a resolution of the Grand Lodge at the last Annual Communication, that any dormant Lodges under its jurisdiction that should send representatives at this Communication and pay one year's dues should be restored to their former standing, I transmitted to each of the said dormant Lodges under its jurisdiction copies of said resolution. Some I mailed on the 31st January last, and others I sent by brethren residing near said Lodges. I have received communications from Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17, and Tuckerton Lodge, No. 43, both of which inform me they will make an effort to have their Lodges represented at this Communication.

On the 14th September last I received from Brother Pruden Alling, Secretary pro tem. of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, Newark, a letter, covering

certain charges and specifications, brought by Brother James T. Thomson against Brothers Jeptha B. Munn and John S. Darcy, Past Grand Masters of this Grand Lodge, for the part they have taken in relation to the self-styled St. John's Grand Lodge of New York, which charges and specifications he requested to be entered on the minutes of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, Newark, and which he pledged himself to bring before this Grand Lodge at the present Annual Grand Communication, and support the same by most undubitable proof.

I transmitted by mail to Brothers Munn and Darcy copies of said charges and specifications. The charges and specifications are now submitted to the Grand Lodge.

On Monday, the 7th March last, a number of delegates from several of the Grand Lodges in the United States, assembled at the city of Washington in accordance with a request of the Grand Lodge of Alabama, for the purpose of adopting a uniform mode of working, and for making such other regulations for the government of the Craft as they might think expedient. After considering and disposing of other business that came before them, a committee of the convention recommended, as the best plan for accomplishing the object contemplated by the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Alabama, and for preserving, according to a pure and unchangeable system, the ceremonies and lectures of the ancient Craft:—That every Grand Lodge in the United States appoint one or more skillful brothers, to be styled Grand Lecturers, who shall meet and agree upon a course of instruction necessary and proper to be imparted to the Lodges and to the Fraternity in their several jurisdictions, and who shall be required to convene at some central place, at least once in three years, to compare their lectures and correct variations.

Whereupon it was resolved by the convention, that should the Grand Lodges, or a majority of them, determine to adopt the recommendation contained in the report of the committee, respecting the appointment of Grand Lecturers, that it be further recommended by the convention that the first meeting of said Grand Lecturers be held in the city of Baltimore on the second Monday in May, 1843.

It will remain with the Grand Lodge to decide whether one or more Grand Lecturers shall be appointed by it. Could the object be accomplished, no doubt it would be of essential benefit to the Craft throughout the United States.

I have received two communications from the Grand Lodge of Michigan, or from a body of brethren styling themselves a Grand Lodge, but as I do not consider them duly constituted, I have held no intercourse with them further than sending them a copy of the extract of proceedings of our Grand Lodge at the last Annual Communication. It appears that there was formerly in that State (then Territory) a Grand Lodge, but the Grand Lodge, nor any of its subordinates, have not had a meeting for

several years, and it does not appear that any of the brothers who were members of the former Grand Lodge are members of the present one. Should our brethren in Michigan have in their State three legally constituted Lodges, and those three form a Grand Lodge, I presume it would afford this Grand Lodge pleasure to acknowledge them as a duly constituted Grand Lodge, hail them as such and open a correspondence with them, but under present circumstances I do not think we can acknowledge them a Grand Lodge. That, however, will remain for the Grand Lodge to determine.

Yesterday I received from St. John's Lodge, No. 2, Newark, another communication and documents in relation to Brothers Munn and Darcy, which I now submit to the Grand Lodge.

(Signed) JOHN MERSHON, *Grand Secretary.*

Grand Lodge, Trenton, November 8th, A. L. 5842, A. D. 1842.

The charges and specifications referred to in the Grand Secretary's report, brought by Brother James T. Thomson before St. John's Lodge, No. 2, Newark, against Past Grand Master Jeptha B. Munn and John S. Darcy, which was received by him on the 14th September last, were read in open Grand Lodge, and also the one received yesterday on the same subject.

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That the communication received yesterday by the Grand Secretary from St. John's Lodge, No. 2, Newark, be dismissed on account of its informality, and that this Grand Lodge will take no action on the same.

Copy of Brother Pruden Alling's letter covering Brother Thomson's charges and specifications:

ST. JOHN'S HALL, 7th Sept., 5842.

DEAR SIR:—By resolution of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, I am directed to forward the enclosed charges and specifications against our Past Grand Masters Jeptha B. Munn and John S. Darcy, to be acted upon at the next Grand Communication.

Respectfully yours,

(Signed) P. ALLING, *Secretary p. t.*

BRO. JOHN MERSHON, *Sec'y of Grand Lodge, at Trenton, N. J.*

Copy of Brother James T. Thomson's charges and specifications:

NEWARK, September ——, 1842.

ST. JOHN'S HALL.—That the honor of the Craft may be left untarnished, and the harmony of this body restored; that the broad, immutable and eternal principles of Masonic Justice may be sustained and supported, and that the power and weight of our punishment or censures may fall upon those who have been guilty of wrong, showing to the world that no rank, however lofty—no station, however dignified—can shield or protect him who willfully wanders from the path of rectitude or right. I beg of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, to enter upon their minutes and officially present to the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey, the following charge and specifications, pledging myself to sustain, by the most indubitable testimony, the whole of the facts set forth in the various specifications.

(Signed) JAMES T. THOMSON.

Charge against the Right Worshipful Past Grand Masters John S. Darcy and Jeptha B. Munn.

Charge—UNMASONIC CONDUCT.

Specification 1st.—Abuse of their power as Past Grand Masters, by installing a spurious Grand Lodge in the city of New York, commonly known of as St. John's Grand Lodge of the State of New York, contrary to the wishes of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of said State, and in violation of the ancient rules and landmarks of the fraternity.

Specification 2d.—Attending their public processions on St. John's day and joining in their festival, and cheering them on in their unmasonic conduct, to the disgrace of this, our honorable institution.

Specification 3d.—By countenancing, associating and holding Masonic conversation with the members of St. John's Grand Lodge and its Subordinates, knowing them to have been declared expelled by the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and notwithstanding the recommendation of *non*-intercommunication from the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of this State.

Specification 4th.—Individually against Worshipful Past Grand Master Jeptha B. Munn.

For receiving communications from this self-styled Grand Lodge and answering the same, approving the course they were pursuing, for setting to an artist for the taking of his portrait upon a banner, and that banner paraded through the public streets of the city of New York in open day, thereby wounding the feelings of the legitimate and legal Masons of the city.

Specification 5th.—Against Worshipful Past Grand Master John S. Darcy.

For receiving letters of invitation from this spurious Grand Lodge and answering the same fraternally, thereby virtually acknowledging them as regular Masons, he at the same time knowing them to be declared expelled

Masons by the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and at their festive board making the broad and bold assertion, "Brethren, in all this matter I feel I have acted Masonically, and as a Mason with you I stand or with you I fall."

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment until half past 2 o'clock this afternoon.

At half past 2 o'clock P. M. the Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

PRESENT.

M. W. DANIEL B. BRUEN, Grand Master.
R. W. WILLIAM H. EARL, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. JEREMIAH B. DAVIS, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOHN MERSHON, Grand Secretary.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. X. J. MAYNARD, Grand Treasurer.
Rev. & W. JONA. BROOKS, Grand Chaplain.
W. HALSEY CANFIELD, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. JOHN VANTILBURGH, Junior Grand Deacon.
W. GEORGE AYRES, Grand Marshal.
W. ELIAS PHILLIPS, Grand Steward.
Bro. SYLVESTER VANSICKLE, Grand Tyler.
R. W. WILLIAM KERWOOD, Representative of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

Visiting Brethren.—Isaac Barnes, Aaron S. Longstreet, Elias Vanarsdale, Jr.

And representatives from the following Lodges:

John J. Frisbee, Samuel B. Scattergood, Alvan Sanford, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

Enos F. Randolph, George Ayres, Brearley Lodge, No. 9.

Allan Smith, James Clarke, Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17.

William Mason, William French, Tuckerton Lodge, No. 43.

William H. Parke, Isaac Smith, William P. Sanno, Lebanon Lodge, No. 54.

B. West, Newark Lodge, No. 55.

Moses Craig, Clinton Lodge, No. 56.

The Committee on the Grand Treasurer's Accounts made the following report, which was accepted and the committee discharged:

The committee appointed to examine the Grand Treasurer's accounts respectfully report—that they have attended to that duty, find his accounts and vouchers correctly stated, with a balance in his hands of twenty-six dollars and seven cents.

(Signed) HALSEY CANFIELD, ELIAS PHILLIPS, } *Committee.*

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence made the following report:

The committee appointed to examine the Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report—that they have attended to the duties assigned them, and find that communications have been received from the following Grand Lodges, viz.: Connecticut, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Maine, New York, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Ohio, Tennessee, Indiana, Alabama, Missouri, Arkansas and Michigan.

These communications are extracts of the proceedings of the several Grand Lodges, and your committee find nothing therein that requires the immediate action of this Grand Lodge, except what is embraced in the Grand Secretary's report. They would recommend that the Grand Secretary transmit to the several Grand Lodges in the United States such extract of proceedings of this Grand Lodge as shall be published.

(Signed) JEREMIAH B. DAVIS, JOHN VANTILBURGH, } *Committee.*

Grand Lodge Room, Trenton, November 8th, A. L. 5842, A. D. 1842.

The following resolution was offered and unanimously adopted:

Whereas, the charges and specifications brought by Brother James T. Thomson against Past Grand Masters Jeptha B. Munn and John S. Darcy, before St. John's Lodge, No. 2, Newark, and which charges he pledged himself to bring before this Grand Lodge at the present Communication, and he having failed so to do, and this Grand Lodge having decided that the said charges and specifications have not come duly attested before them, therefore be it

Resolved, That the said charges and specifications be dismissed by this Grand Lodge.

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That the dues of Newark Lodge, No. 55, be remitted, and their return of members be accepted.

Brother Frisbee offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That so much of the Constitution and General Regulations of this Grand Lodge as requires the subordinate officers thereof to be filled by Past Masters, be rescinded.

Which resolution was ordered to lie over until the next Annual Communication, and the Grand Secretary directed to give notice of said resolution to all working Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

The following preamble and resolutions were offered and adopted with only dissenting voice, (Brother Elias Vanarsdale, of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, Newark.)

Whereas, The Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New York did, in the year A. L. 5837, expel certain Lodges and individuals from all the rights and privileges of Free Masonry, which said Lodges and individuals formed themselves into a body within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and called themselves St. John's Grand Lodge, and went on and held clandestine Masonic meetings, and assumed the right to perform all the rites and ceremonies of the ancient fraternity without any warrant, dispensation or authority from any legal Masonic Body to exercise the same.

And whereas, This Grand Lodge did, at their Grand Communication A. L. 5837, pass certain resolutions supporting the authority of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and recommending to the Lodges and Masons under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, that no intercourse should be held with the expelled Masons, or with what they term St. John's Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and this Grand Lodge supposing that an expression of their feelings (without a prohibitory resolution,) when communicated to the Lodges and their brethren under its jurisdiction, would be sufficient for a strict observance of its recommendation. This Grand Lodge feels pained to say that St. John's Lodge, No. 2, under its jurisdiction, has paid no heed to its wishes, but in violation of its recommendation has continued to hold Masonic intercourse with the said St. John's Grand Lodge and its members, notwithstanding the repeated solicitations of the officers of this Grand Lodge to the members of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, that they should respect and sustain the Grand Lodge of New York, and were bound strictly to observe the recommendation of this Grand Lodge. This Grand Lodge therefore, in pursuance of their rights and priviliges to censure, restrict, suspend or expel Lodges or individuals under its jurisdiction for violation of its rules and regulations, do

Resolve, That St. John's Lodge, No. 2, under its jurisdiction, is highly

censurable as a body for receiving into their Lodge expelled Masons of the city of New York, hailing from under the jurisdiction of St. John's Grand Lodge, New York, and that all Masons who have individually held Masonic intercourse with said expelled Masons of the city of New York, are not only highly censurable, but deserve to be strictly disciplined.

And this Grand Lodge do further *Resolve*, That all Lodges and Masons under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, are hereby strictly interdicted, prohibited and forbidden to receive into any of their Lodges under its jurisdiction, any member or members belonging to, or hailing from any Lodge or Lodges under the jurisdiction of a clandestine body in the State of New York, calling themselves St. John's Grand Lodge, or to hold any Masonic intercourse or communication with them whatever, or to visit said clandestine St. John's Grand Lodge, or any Lodge under its jurisdiction.

And this Grand Lodge doth further *Resolve*, That a violation of the preceding resolution, in any of its parts or points, by any Lodge or Mason under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, shall be considered as a defiance of its authority; and the Lodge or Mason so offending shall be struck from the rolls of this Grand Lodge, and be considered as suspended from all the rights and privileges of the fraternity, and the name or names published.

On motion made and seconded, it was unanimously

Resolved, That Past Grand Masters Jeptha B. Munn and John S. Darcy, for the part they took in the year 1837, in installing the Grand Officers of the self-styled St. John's Grand Lodge, in the city of New York, deserve the censure of this Grand Lodge.

That part of the report of the Grand Secretary in relation to the appointment of a Grand Lecturer to attend the Convention at Baltimore was ordered to lie on the table.

That part of the report of the Grand Secretary in relation to the Grand Lodge of Michigan, was approved of.

The Grand Secretary reported that he had lately had a conversation with Dr. Thomas L. Woodruff, former Grand Treasurer, on the subject of the payment of the whole or part of his note due this day, and received for answer that he could do nothing, except that it might be in the way of interest. He promised however to see him again on the subject previous to this day, which he failed to do. Whereupon it was

Resolved, That Brothers X. J. Maynard and William Kerwood be appointed a committee to confer with him on the subject, and that unless he pay the note now due within sixty days, they commence a suit against him.

Ordered, That the Grand Treasurer pass to the credit of the Grand Secretary, on the books of this Grand Lodge, the sum of thirty dollars, being the amount of his salary for the last year, which will make the amount now due him the sum of one hundred and forty dollars, which the Grand Treasurer is directed to pay when in funds.

The following accounts were presented and ordered to be paid, viz.:

Justice & Mills, for printing...	$15 50
John Mershon, Grand Secretary, for postage, &c.....	3 48

Ordered, That the sum of four dollars be paid the Grand Tyler for his attendance this day.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, and after a short time spent at refreshment was again called to labor.

Resolved, That all Subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, that have lain dormant for three or more years, be stricken from the list of Lodges. But that on application to the Most Worshipful Grand Master for a Dispensation until the next Annual Communication, they may resume their labors, and on proper application at that time their warrant may be restored.

It was further *Resolved* and *Ordered*, That the Grand Secretary re-number the Lodges that are working, and that all Lodges that may hereafter be restored or warranted, shall take number in the order in which they are restored or warranted.

Lodges Stricken Off.—Solomon's Lodge, No. 1; Harmony, No. 8; Woodbury, No. 11; Union, No. 12; Passaic, No. 13; Farmers, No. 14; Olive Branch, No. 16; Mount Holly, No. 18; Salem, No. 19; Union, No. 21; Friendship, No. 22; Hope, No. 26; Independence, No. 29; Mansfield, No. 31; Sharptown, No. 32; Shrewsbury Washington, No. 34; Cedarville, No. 35; Pittstown, No. 38; Allowaystown, No. 39; Jerusalem, No. 40; Washington, No. 41; Deerfield, No. 42; Essex, No. 44; Camden, No. 45; Euclid, No. 46; Cranbury, No. 47; LaFayette, No. 49; Dove, No. 50; Corinthian, No. 51; Warren, No. 52; Franklin, No. 53; Mount Vernon, No. 57; Hiram, No. 58.

The following Lodges were stricken from the roll some years ago, viz.:

Hiram Lodge, No. 4; Union, No. 6; Unity, No. 7; Trinity, No. 20; Sandyston, No. 24; Hiram, No. 25; Princeton, No. 30.

The following Lodges surrendered their warrants some years ago, viz.:

Trinity Lodge, No. 3; Nova Cesærea, No. 10; Federal, No. 15; Augusta, No. 23; St. Tammany, No. 28; Chatham, No. 33; Dennis Creek, No. 36; Franklin, No. 37; Bloomfield, No. 48.

List of Lodges working at this time, (November 8th, 1842.)

St. John's Lodge, No. 2; Trenton Lodge, No. 5; Brearley Lodge, No. 9; Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17; Tuckerton Lodge, No. 43; Lebanon Lodge, No. 54; Newark Lodge, No. 55; Clinton Lodge, No. 56.

In re-numbering, the Lodges will take rank as follows:

St. John's Lodge, No. 2, will take No. 1; Brearley Lodge, No. 9, will take No. 2; Cincinnati Lodge, No. 17, will take No. 3; Tuckerton Lodge, No. 43, will take No. 4; Trenton Lodge, No. 5, will retain her number, No. 5; Lebanon Lodge, No. 54, will take No. 6; Newark Lodge, No. 55, will take No. 7; Clinton Lodge, No. 56, will take No. 8; Washington Lodge, No. 34, Shrewsbury, No. 9; Franklin Lodge, No. 10.

The Grand Lodge having gone through with all other business before them, proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were duly elected, viz.:

M. W. Daniel B. Bruen, of Newark, Grand Master.
R. W. Abner Parke, of New Hampton, Deputy G. Master.
" " William H. Earl, of Newark, Senior Grand Warden.
" " Jeremiah B. Davis, of Bridgeton, Junior G. Warden.
" " John Mershon, of Trenton, Grand Secretary.
" " Joseph H. Hough, of Trenton, Deputy G. Secretary.
" " X. J. Maynard, of Trenton, Grand Treasurer.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following appointments, viz.:

Rev. & W. Jonathan Brooks, Grand Chaplain.
" Elias I. Thompson, Grand Visitor.
" Richard Rounsaville, Grand Pursuivant.
" George Ayres, Grand Marshal.
" Halsey Canfield, Senior Grand Deacon.

W. John Vantilburgh, Junior Grand Deacon.
" Elias Phillips, Grand Steward.
" Samuel B. Scattergood, Grand Steward.
Bro. Sylvester Vansickle, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Officers were then severally installed into their respective offices and took their stations.

The Throne of Grace was then addressed and a benediction pronounced by the Grand Chaplain, when the Grand Lodge closed in harmony and due form, to meet again on the second Tuesday in November, A. D. 1843, A. L. 5843, which will be on the 14th day of the month, unless sooner convened by the proper authority.

JOHN MERSHON, *G. Secretary.*

November 8th, A. L. 5842, A. D. 1842.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1843.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, the 14th of November, A. L. 5843, there were

PRESENT,

M. W. DANIEL B. BRUEN, Grand Master.
R. W. WILLIAM H. EARL, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. PRUDDEN ALLING, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. X. J. MAYNARD, Grand Treasurer.
Rev. & W. JONA. BROOKS, Grand Chaplain.
W. HALSEY CANFIELD, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. JOHN VANTILBURGH, Junior Grand Deacon.
Bro. SYLVESTER VANSICKLE, Grand Tyler.
R. W. WILLIAM KERWOOD, Representative of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

VISITING BRETHREN.—Samuel A. Sutton, of Trenton Lodge, No. 5; John R. Crockett, of St. John's Lodge, No. 1.

LODGES REPRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

Joseph Hollingsworth, S. W., St. John's Lodge, No. 1.
John J. Frisbee, W. M., Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
Bartholomew West, W. M., Newark Lodge, No. 7.
Allen Osborne, W. M., Franklin Lodge, No. 10.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form; the Throne of Grace was addressed by the Grand Chaplain; the minutes of the last Grand Annual Communication were read and approved, after which the Grand Lodge proceeded to business.

The Worshipful Grand Master read the following report:

BRETHREN:—Another Masonic year has passed away with us, and while I have the pleasure of congratulating you upon our meeting in the full enjoyment of the blessing of Divine Providence, it becomes my painful duty to announce to you, that during the recess of this body, it has pleased the great Disposer of events to remove from among us our worthy and beloved brother, John Mershon, the R. W. G. Secretary of this Grand Lodge. It is unnecessary, brethren, for me at this time to attempt to recapitulate his distinguished services (for many years) as a member of this body, or to remind you of his zeal as a member of the Masonic Fraternity, or of his virtues as a christian, a citizen and a Mason.

You all knew him, and I will leave it to those better acquainted, and more competent, to detail to you the traits of his character which endeared him to all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. I would respectfully recommend to the Grand Lodge that they take such order in the matter as they deem proper, in paying that respect to the memory of our departed brother, John Mershon, esquire, late Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, as his Masonic character and christian virtues merit.

We have again assembled, brethren, for the purpose of transacting the business necessary for the better government of the Lodges which are subordinate to this Grand Lodge. In order to expedite the business that may come before you, I herewith lay before you such information as has come to my knowledge since our last Grand Communication, with such suggestions for your consideration as seem to me proper and necessary for the better government of the Craft. It will be unnecessary for me to particularize the difficulties which the Grand Lodge has had to contend with for several years past; suffice it to say, they have in a great measure been overcome, and the sound of the gavel is again heard in a number of

Lodges (which are subordinate to this Grand Lodge) which have laid dormant for many years.

I received an application (in the month of February last) from the Worshipful John P. Lewis, P. M. of Shrewsbury Washington Lodge, No. 41, and fourteen others (members of said Lodge), stating that they had not held any regular meetings since the year 1835; and that their Lodge-room had been entered by thieves, and their warrant and jewels stolen; and that they wished to re-open and resuscitate their Lodge, and asked for a dispensation for that purpose, which I granted to them, to remain in force until this present Grand Communication. I also received an application from Allen Osborne and eight others (members of Franklin Lodge, No. 53,) praying for a dispensation to re-open and resuscitate said Lodge. I accordingly granted them a dispensation for that purpose (subject to the regulations of the Grand Lodge), and, on the 24th May, A. L. 5843, I repaired to Camptown, and, with the assistance of the S. G. Warden and other brethren, I installed the officers of that Lodge, and I am happy to state that they are prosperously pursuing their labors. I would respectfully suggest to the Grand Lodge that a vote be taken upon the publishing of each subject that may come before it. I am induced to make this suggestion, from the fact that some matters which were brought before this body have reached the public ear, which should never have gone beyond its walls.

The defalcation of the late Grand Treasurer of this Grand Lodge, together with the inaction of so great a proportion of the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, has so reduced its finances that it has been deprived of the means, not only of affording the necessary expenses of its officers, but also of the ability of bestowing charities on such worthy objects as have claims on its bounty; I would therefore recommend for your consideration, that every member of a constituted Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, pay fifty cents, annually, into its funds, in addition to the dues now paid into the General Charity Fund, and that a decided stand be taken against the remission of dues from Subordinate Lodges, except in case of actual misfortune, and then only upon satisfactory evidence that the interests of the Craft will be promoted by it.

As ours is confessedly a benevolent institution, its design to administer to the wants of the destitute and forlorn, its great end the promotion of human happiness, and from its professions of charity, unworthy objects often impose upon the benevolent sympathies of their brethren, I would therefore recommend for your consideration the plan which has been adopted by several Grand Lodges in Europe, and in this country also, viz.: "That no Mason be admitted by any Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, or receive the charities of any Lodge, unless he shall, on such application, exhibit a Grand Lodge certificate, duly attested by the

proper authority." I would further recommend, that this Grand Lodge procure a plate, with a suitable device upon it, for the purpose of striking off certificates under its authority, and that each member of a Subordinate Lodge under its jurisdiction be required to provide himself with one.

It has often been charged upon us by the enemies of our Fraternity, that we assembled for the purpose of having bacchanalian revels, and that from the entrance into our Lodges can be traced the degraded path trod by the drunkard. From such a charge let us shield ourselves, by adopting such regulations as will prohibit the use of all intoxicating drinks in any Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

There is, perhaps, no subject which has caused more just and general complaints than the want of uniformity that now exists in the work of the different Lodges in the several States. This defect, it is hoped, has been remedied by the convention held in the city of Baltimore in May last. I have never heard what the result of their labors was, consequently I cannot give you any information on the subject. As the regulations of this Grand Lodge do not recognize the office of Grand Lecturer, I would suggest the propriety of creating such an officer, to whom shall be assigned such duties and such compensation for performing them, as the Grand Lodge may think proper.

For several years past this Grand Lodge has had little else before it than the ordinary business of returns from Subordinate Lodges and reports on Foreign Correspondence. Its members generally from a distance, and on their own expenses, its sittings were consequently short, seldom if ever longer than one day; and as a number of suggestions have been made for your consideration, which will necessarily occupy more time than formerly, I would suggest the propriety of holding an extra meeting, for the purpose of receiving reports of committees and attending to such other business as may come properly before it; at which time, also, an eulogium be pronounced on our departed brother, John Mershon, by a brother who may be designated by this Grand Lodge.

In closing this communication, brethren, I must say that this is probably the last time that I shall preside over your deliberations.

For your kindness and courtesy, extended to me on all occasions, I feel myself much indebted, and at the close of this meeting I shall take my leave of you as an officer of this body, hoping that in my successor you will find those qualifications necessary to fill that station, which I always felt myself more honored by, than qualified for.

DANIEL B. BRUEN.

On motion of Bro. John J. Frisbee, that a committee be appointed on the foregoing report, the chair appointed John J. Frisbee, John P. Lewis and Halsey Canfield. Committee on Treasurer's Accounts—John J. Frisbee and Allen Os-

borne. Committee on Foreign Correspondence—X. J. Maynard and William Kerwood.

The committee to whom was referred the claim against Thomas L. Woodruff, late Grand Treasurer, reported the following:

The committee to whom was referred the claim against Thomas L. Woodruff, late Grand Treasurer, of three promissory notes, amounting to five hundred and thirty-one dollars, would beg leave to report—

That soon after their appointment they applied to one of the best lawyers in the State, who had some knowledge of Bro. Woodruff's situation as to property. After due consideration, this gentleman gave his decided opinion that it would be useless to commence a suit for the recovery of the money. Your committee took his advice, and have done nothing, except that before consulting with counsel they wrote to Bro. Woodruff, who did not even answer their letter. Believing nothing can be obtained on these notes, your committee ask to be discharged.

WM. KERWOOD,
X. J. MAYNARD.

Trenton, November 14, A. L. 5843.

The report was accepted and the committee discharged.

Bro. John J. Frisbee called up the amendment offered by him at the previous meeting, in relation to the elective and appointed officers being Past Masters. Laid over until afternoon.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, until 2½ o'clock.

At half-past two o'clock the Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

PRESENT.

M. W. DANIEL B. BRUEN, Grand Master.
R. W. WILLIAM H. EARL, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. PRUDDEN ALLING, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. X. J. MAYNARD, Grand Treasurer.
REV. & W. JONATHAN BROOKS, Grand Chaplain.
W. HALSEY CANFIELD, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. JOHN VANTILBURGH, Junior Grand Deacon.
W. ELIAS PHILLIPS, Grand Steward.
BRO. SYLVESTER VANSICKEL, Grand Tyler.
R. W. WILLIAM KERWOOD, representative of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

VISITING BRETHREN—John R. Crockett, Edward Stewart, Joseph W. Scott, P. G. M.

LODGES REPRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

Joseph Hollingsworth, S. W., St. John's Lodge, No. 1.
John J. Frisbee, W. M., Trenton Lodge, N. 5.
Bartholomew West, W. M., Newark Lodge, No. 7.
John P. Lewis, W. M., Washington Lodge, No. 9.
Allen Osborne, W. M., Franklin Lodge, No. 10.

Bro. Prudden Alling asked for remission of the dues of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, for the past two years; that said Lodge had expended over one hundred dollars in charity, and put a new roof on their hall.

On motion,

Resolved, That St. John's Lodge, No. 1, be exempt from dues for the past two years.

While under consideration, Bro. William Kerwood moved that the dues of the first year be remitted. Agreed to.

Bro. Joseph Hollingsworth offered the following:

Resolved, That the resolution passed at the last meeting of the Grand Lodge, censuring St. John's Lodge, No. 1, be rescinded.

Agreed to.

The committee on the Treasurer's Accounts, reported as follows:

The committee appointed to examine the Treasurer's Accounts respectfully report—That they have attended to that duty, find his accounts correctly stated, accompanied with the proper vouchers, which show a balance in his hands of twenty-seven dollars and fifty-nine cents.

JOHN J. FRISBEE,
ALLEN OSBORNE.

November 14th, A. L. 5843.

On motion, the report was received and committee discharged.

An application to revive Washington Shrewsbury Lodge, at Eatontown, was read; and on motion that a new warrant be granted, it was agreed to.

Bro. John R. Crockett asked of this Grand Lodge a certificate, St. John's Lodge having refused his application. Laid over for the present.

The committee on the Grand Master's report submitted the following:

Your committee respectfully recommend that the annual dues from members under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge be raised to fifty cents.

And to that part respecting the remission of dues to Lodges, your committee would recommend a strict adherence to the Constitution and General Regulations of this Grand Lodge.

Your committee would adopt the language of the communication before them on the subject of Grand Lodge certificates, and would recommend that ——— be a committee to superintend procuring the same, and establishing the price to be charged individual members. Your committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge are hereby expressly forbidden the introduction within the walls of their Lodges, of any spirituous liquors, wine or beer, under any pretence whatever.

Under the present situation of the finances of the Grand Lodge, your committee would recommend the postponement of the appointment of a Grand Lecturer for the present.

Your committee would respectfully recommend that a meeting of this Grand Lodge be held at Newark, on some day in May next, to be named by the Most Worshipful Grand Master; and that ——— ——— be re-

quested to deliver an eulogium on the virtues and character of our late lamented Grand Secretary at that meeting.

JOHN J. FRISBEE,
JOHN P. LEWIS,
H. CANFIELD.

On motion, that the foregoing report be adopted, with the exception of the third recommendation or resolution, agreed to.

The subject of Grand Lodge certificates was referred to Joseph H. Hough and William Kerwood.

The time and place of meeting at Newark was fixed for the first Tuesday in May, at St. John's Hall.

The Grand Master was requested to procure some suitable person to deliver the eulogium.

The Committee on Correspondence reported as follows:

The committee appointed on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report—that they have attended to the duties assigned them, and find that communications have been received, during the last year, from the following Grand Lodges, viz.: Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Virginia, Maryland, New York, Illinois, Kentucky, Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, Florida and Texas.

They are extracts of the proceedings of the several Grand Lodges, and your committee do not find anything therein that requires the immediate attention of this Grand Lodge, except a communication from Bro. Sylvester Spencer, our representative near the Grand Lodge of New York, relative to Grand Lodge certificates, which are referred to in the report of the Grand Master.

X. J. MAYNARD,
WILLIAM KERWOOD.

Trenton, November 14th, A. L. 5843.

On motion, the report was adopted.

The application of Allen Osborne, Matthias W. Ross, Lyman S. Averill and others, for the restoration of the warrant of Franklin Lodge, No. 53, of Camptown. Request granted, and to take No. 10.

The petition of Tuckerton Lodge, No. 4, was read. On motion,

Ordered, That the Grand Treasurer pay over to the widow of the late Grand Secretary the balance in his hands, after paying the following bills: J. H. Hough, postage, $3.86, and Joseph Justice's bill for printing, $21.50.

The resolution offered by Bro. John J. Frisbee, which requires subordinate offices to be filled by Past Masters, was agreed to.

On motion, that Bro. John R. Crockett have an honorable discharge from St. John's Lodge, No. 1, while under consideration, the subject was postponed till the adjourned meeting in May next.

The Grand Lodge was called off for a short space of time to make nominations; thence called to labor.

An election was held, which resulted as follows:

M. W. Daniel B. Bruen, of Newark, Grand Master.
R. W. William H. Earl, of Newark, Deputy Grand Master.
" " John P. Lewis, of Eatontown, Senior Grand Warden.
" " Bartholomew West, of Newark, Junior G. Warden.
" " Joseph H. Hough, of Trenton, Grand Secretary.
" " John J. Frisbee, of Trenton, Deputy G. Secretary.
" " Elias Phillips, of Trenton, Grand Treasurer.

No subordinate officers were appointed.

The above officers were duly installed, except the Senior Grand Warden, who was installed by proxy.

The Throne of Grace was then addressed, and a benediction pronounced by the Grand Chaplain, when the Grand Lodge closed in harmony and due form, to meet in St. John's Hall, at Newark, on Tuesday, the 7th day of May next, unless sooner convened by the proper authority.

JOS. H. HOUGH, *G. Secretary.*

Trenton, November 14th, A. L. 5843.

ADJOURNED SESSION, 1844.

An adjourned meeting of the Grand Lodge was held at St. John's Hall, Newark, May 7th.

PRESENT.

R. W. WILLIAM H. EARL, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. IRA MERCHANT, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. ALLEN OSBORNE, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Grand Secretary.
R. W. EZRA DURAND, Grand Treasurer, p. t.
R. W. JAMES J. CARTER, Senior Grand Deacon.
R. W. JOHN C. LITTELL, Junior Grand Deacon.
BRO. ISRAEL C. LOSEY, Grand Tyler, p. t.
R. W. WILLIAM KERWOOD, Representative of the Grand Lodge of New York.

VISITOR—David Naar.

LODGES REPRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

James J. Carter, W. M., J. C. Littell, J. W., St. John's Lodge, No. 1.
Samuel B. Scattergood, (proxy), Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
Ira Merchant, W. M., E. Stewart, J. W., Newark Lodge, No. 7.
Allen Osborne, W. M., Franklin Lodge, No. 10.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. The minutes were read.

The matter of Bro. John R. Crockett's discharge from St. John's Lodge, No. 1, was laid over for the present.

On motion, it was

Ordered, That a committee be appointed to examine the books of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, and ascertain what amount has been paid in charity for the past year.

Committee—James Hewson, Ezra Durand and Thomas Belcher.

The Secretary read a communication from the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Georgia, recommending Bro. R. L. Roddy, of Forsythe, as our representative near said Grand Lodge.

On motion, it was accepted and ordered filed.

Charges were preferred against Past Master Prudden Alling, of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, which were read and referred to a committee.

Charges against Joseph Hollingsworth were read and referred to a committee. It was

Ordered, That both charges be referred to the same committee, to report at the next Annual Communication.

On motion, adjourned to meet in Newark Lodge-room at 3 o'clock, P. M.

NEWARK LODGE-ROOM, 3 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to order—officers as before.

The committee to whom was referred the subject of what sum St. John's Lodge, No. 1, had paid in charity the past year, reported as follows:

The undersigned, a committee appointed by the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey, during its session at Newark, May 7th, 5844, to examine the books of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, for the purpose of ascertaining the amount paid in charities by that Lodge during the year ending November 14th, 1843, respectfully submit the following report—that having examined the minutes of the regular and extra meetings of St. John's Lodge, from the meeting of November 23d, 1842, to November 22d, 1843, inclusive, as recorded in the minute book of said Lodge, we find the amount of ten dollars, bestowed as a donation or charity, recorded at the regular meeting of said Lodge on the 8th day of March, 1843.

On behalf of the committee.

JAMES HEWSON,
THOMAS BELCHER.

Newark, May 7th, A. L. 5844.

On motion, the report was accepted and the committee discharged.

The Grand Master read his report and opinion, delivered before St. John's Lodge, No. 1, which was ordered to be recorded.

* * * * * *

On motion, it was

Ordered, That St. John's Lodge, No. 1, be requested to give Bro. John R. Crockett an honorable discharge.

Agreed to.

The chair. appointed Bro's John Garside, Ezra Durand and John R. Crockett to try the charges against Past Master Prudden Alling and Joseph Hollingsworth.

The publication of the proceedings was deferred till the next annual meeting.

The following appointments were made:

W. Samuel B. Scattergood, Senior Grand Deacon.

Rev. W. Jonathan Brooks, Grand Chaplain.

W. Thomas Belcher, Grand Steward.

Bro. Sylvester Vansickle, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge then closed in harmony.

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1844.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, November 12th, A. L. 5844, there were

PRESENT,

M. W. DANIEL B. BRUEN, Grand Master.
R. W. WILLIAM H. EARL, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. BARTHOLOMEW WEST, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Grand Secretary.
R. W. ELIAS PHILLIPS, Grand Treasurer.
Rev. & W. JONA. BROOKS, Grand Chaplain.
R. W. HALSEY CANFIELD, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
R. W. IRA MERCHANT, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
Bro. SYLVESTER VANSICKLE, Grand Tyler.
R. W. WILLIAM KERWOOD, Representative of the Grand Lodge of New York.

LODGES REPRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

Samuel B. Scattergood, W. M., Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
E. Stewart, W. M., J. Garside, S. W., Newark Lodge, No. 7.
Allen Osborne, W. M., Franklin Lodge, No. 10.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The Throne of Grace was addressed by the Chaplain. The minutes of the last annual and adjourned meetings were read and approved.

The following committees were rppointed:

On Foreign Correspondence—Bro's Ira Merchant and William H. Earl.

On Treasurer's Accounts—Bro's William Kerwood and Bartholomew West.

The Grand Lodge was then called off from labor to refreshment, until half past two o'clock.

At half past 2 o'clock, P. M. the Grand Lodge was called to order. Officers same as before.

The Grand Master read his report, as follows:

BRETHREN:—Another Masonic year has convened us together, for the purpose of performing the duties required of us by the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Lodge.

In performing the duties necessarily required of me, I shall be as brief as possible in laying before you such matters as I may deem proper to call your attention to. The duties, rights and privileges of the officers and members of the Grand Lodge, as well as of the officers and members of Subordinate Lodges, is a subject which, if well understood, seems to be but little observed.

The Ancient Constitutions, as well as the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge, make it a sovereign, independent body. From its decision there is no appeal; but, in the exercise of its prerogative, the rights and privileges of its officers and members, as well as of Lodges that are subordinate thereto, are guarded by the Ancient Constitutions and usages of the Fraternity. During the recess of the Grand Lodge, all its powers of government over Subordinate Lodges devolve on the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden and Junior Grand Warden, as the case may be; but in the exercise of those powers they are answerable to the Grand Lodge. The rights, privileges and duties of Subordinate Lodges, as well as of the officers and members, are all clearly laid down in the Ancient Constitutions and By-Laws of this Grand Lodge, the protection of which can be claimed by any member of the Fraternity. I wish to bring the subject of discipline to the attention of the Grand Lodge without going

into any detail. The rights, privileges, duties and powers of officers and members of the Grand Lodges, as well as Subordinate ones, are within the reach of every member of the Fraternity; and if well understood, and put in practice, would bind us together (as we profess to be) in the holy bond of brotherhood, united in one common interest, to do to each other agreeably to the requirements of our obligations.

At the extra meeting of this Grand Lodge, held in the city of Newark in May last, I made a communication to you; since that time nothing has transpired to which I think it necessary to call your attention. The proceedings at that meeting, however, and some papers which were presented for its consideration, were so extraordinary in their nature, that I felt it to be my duty to call your attention for your prompt and decisive action.

It is well known to you, brethren, that there has long existed (within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge) a feud among the brethren and sister Lodges in the city of Newark, toward which the Grand Lodge and its officers have exercised that lenity and forbearance, and to individuals in particular, which has emboldened them not only to insult the Grand Lodge, in the person of its officers, but to assume to themselves rights and privileges to which none are entitled but members of this body. Out of these circumstances have grown charges against several individuals, which have been presented by the Junior Grand Warden. These charges were acted upon at the extra meeting held in the city of Newark in May last; two of them were referred to a committee, to be reported on at this meeting, the other was dismissed, which finally disposes of it, unless again called up, and presented by a member of this body. Immediately following the filing of the charges referred to, charges were presented by Samuel Smith, Past Master of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, (who was disqualified at that time to exercise any right or privilege of membership of this Grand Lodge, by charges then lying on the files against him) against me as Grand Master, for expressing and stating facts in open Lodge, when called upon by St. John's Lodge, No. 1, for my official action as Grand Master of this State. Charges were also presented to this Grand Lodge by Bro. Shultz, (a private member of St. John's Lodge, No. 1,) against Bro. Luther Goble, (a Past Master of said Lodge), for violating his obligations as master of a Lodge. Charges were also preferred in this Grand Lodge by Bro. J. T. Baldwin, (a private member of St. John's Lodge, No. 1,) against the Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden of this Grand Lodge. To these charges, and the assumption of the individuals bringing them, I wish to call your attention. In doing so, I ask nothing as an humble individual, neither do I wish to arrogate to myself, as Grand Master of the State of New Jersey, any more than the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge and the Ancient Constitutions and landmarks of the Fraternity entitle me to; that I ask, and that I demand of

you as a right and a protection to me in my official capacity, as the executive officer of this body. In acting in that capacity, I have never been, nor do I intend to be, intimidated or awed into silence by delicacy or the presence of any person, to withhold any opinion or censure which a sense of duty prompts me to utter. The station that I have filled in this Grand Lodge (for the last four years) is one that I accepted with diffidence and unwillingness, well knowing my inexperience, and consequent inability to perform its important duties. Having accepted it, I have endeavored to discharge the trust reposed in me to the best of my abilities, for the prosperity, honor and dignity of the Craft. In the discharge of those duties, I have been called upon to decide on questions in Masonic jurisprudence which are altogether new. In giving such opinions I have been governed (so far as I understand them) by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey, and the Ancient Constitutions and landmarks of the Fraternity.

When acting officially, and it became necessary to administer discipline to a Lodge, or an individual, I have done it without favor or affection, and fearless of any consequence but a violation of duty. For the faithful discharge of that duty I have incurred the displeasure of some individuals, among whom are those who have been honored by their brethren with high and honorable stations, who have descended from their dignity, not only to insult me personally, but to offer insult to this Right Worshipful Grand Lodge in the person of its officers, when called upon to act officially, and then having the audacity (when laboring under charges filed against them in this Lodge, and consequently disfranchised from any right or privilege in its proceedings,) to bring charges against its officers for facts stated by them in the discharge of their duties, and by these means endeavoring to throw dust in the eyes of the Fraternity, and obstacles and difficulties in the way of this body, in disposing of the charges filed against them.

Brethren, there are rights and privileges in the government of all deliberative bodies, which every member has a right to exercise, agreeably to the rules, regulations and established usages of such body; a violation of its laws makes the violator subject to its penalties, and, until justice is satisfied, suspends him from participating in its deliberations, government and privileges. In the army and navy, an officer under charges is deprived of his sword and all authority under his commission, the judge is deprived of his seat on the bench, the divine of his surplice, the legislator of deliberating in the affairs of government, the member of the christian church in partaking of the holy symbols of the sacrament or participating in the government of the church; and will this Grand Lodge tolerate a member in the exercise of the rights and privileges of membership, when grave and serious charges are lying on your files against him? if so, what would be its effects? A member may be guilty

of the most outrageous violations of law and order; charges are made out and filed against him; all he has to do is to turn around and trump up charges against the officers of the Grand Lodge or of a Subordinate Lodge, (as the case may be) and so make an off-set of his crimes by false accusations against his accusers, and, if necessary, he could carry that principle out by making charges against every member; and where could be any organization or authority to enforce discipline?

There is no necessity, brethren, for me to consume time in endeavoring to show to you that this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge has been insulted and treated with indignity by some of its members; on you rests the responsibility to maintain your dignity and protect your officers from insult. Enough has already been before you, and will be shown by the most indisputable evidence, to call for your prompt action. And to the disorganizing principle (if tolerated) would I ask the attention of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, that a private member of a Subordinate Lodge should assume to himself the right (which the Grand Lodge never gave, nor does the ancient landmarks of the Fraternity justify,) to bring in this Grand Lodge grave and serious charges against one of its members; which charges he cannot be present to sustain, and the threshold he cannot pass without special invitation, and when admitted he is not allowed to vote, or even to speak on any question without leave.

I refer to the charges brought by Bro. Jabez P. Baldwin (a private member of St. John's Lodge, No. 1,) against Bro. Bartholomew West, the Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden of this Grand Lodge; his assumption to exercise rights belonging to members of this body, and to embarrass its proceedings, by laying illegal and irregular papers before it for its action, is an indignity offered to it, and a trifling of privilege, which should not be tolerated nor pass without the severest censure.

The assumption of Bro. Shultz (in his charges against Past Master Luther Goble) of his knowledge of the obligations and duties of the Oriental chair, are of the most offensive kind. He charges Past Master Goble with violating his obligations as Master of a Lodge. How brother Shultz (who is only a Master Mason) should be in possession of the knowledge of the obligations and duties of the Master of a Lodge, is best known to himself; he certainly assumes that knowledge. If he has come into possession of it illegally, he has not acquired by that possession a right to a seat in the Grand Lodge, or in the East of a Subordinate one; he has either been made a dupe of, or else deserves the most severe censure of this Grand Lodge.

Circumstances have imposed a duty on me to call individuals and things by their proper names. In the discharge of that duty, I have been necessarily compelled to speak of myself in my official capacity; the subject is a delicate one. Since I have had the honor of presiding over

this body, I have had, perhaps, more difficulties to contend with than has ever taken place since its first organization.

It is well known to you, brethren, that expelled and clandestine Masons have been admitted into a Lodge under your jurisdiction. Your officers have interposed their advice, which has been treated with contempt; your recommendations, prohibiting all intercourse with clandestine and expelled Masons, were treated with as little respect as was the advice of your officers. With this revolutionary and discordant spirit I have had to contend during the whole time that I have presided over you.

I now earnestly recommend that you take that decided action which will for ever put at rest that spirit of insubordination which has marred and destroyed, in a great measure, our fraternal intercourse.

I trust, brethren, that I shall be able to retire from this chair, after your deliberations are closed, gratified with the feelings that I leave it in more competent hands to perform its duties. If I have discharged my duty to your satisfaction and the honor of the Fraternity, I shall feel richly paid. I have enjoyed my full share of the honors and pleasures that flow from a connection with the Masonic Fraternity. The circumstances under which I have been placed, and the faithful discharge of my duty under them, has drawn down upon me a greater share of vindictive feeling than I should wish to fall to the lot of any brother who may succeed me. Wishing to retire from any further action in this body as an officer, I hope that in the selection you may make for your officers, you will pay particular attention to their qualifications for the stations for which they may be chosen, and their location in exercising a supervision and care over Subordinate Lodges. Hoping that our proceedings may be conducted in harmony, I now call the attention of the Grand Lodge to the discharge of its duties.

DANIEL B. BRUEN.

The above address was unanimously accepted.

The Grand Secretary reported as follows:

TRENTON, November 11th, A. L. 5844.

The Grand Secretary, in presenting his annual report, would simply state, that there is nothing of much importance that has come to his knowledge of such a character as to go into detail.

The subject of raising the dues from members to fifty cents, (as now the Grand Lodge only requires one-half that sum) which was brought to your notice by Most Worshipful Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen, at the last Grand Annual Communication, and, as per minutes, deferred till the adjourned meeting at Newark in May last, not acted upon, but postponed until this Grand Annual Communication, I sincerely hope will be viewed in its right light, and the Grand Lodge will adopt the regulation, so as to enable it to remove some of the debt, which now increases at every session.

Such a small sum, as it will be from every Lodge, cannot be any detriment to the Lodges, but will be of vital importance to this Grand Lodge.

There are a few Lodges which have made no return for two years, (ending at this meeting) which I call your attention to.

The correspondence is but limited, showing nothing but the printed extracts of the proceedings of the several Grand Lodges in correspondence with this, which contain valuable instruction, but not deemed of sufficient importance to present.

In reference to printing the proceedings, I would recommend no more than a printed circular, giving a list of the officers, so as to save an expense of probably thirty dollars, which I think this body is unable to bear in its present embarrassed condition.

J. H. Hough.

On motion, the foregoing report was received.

The foregoing address and report were referred to a committee consisting of Past Masters Ira Merchant, William Kerwood and William H. Earl.

The following report was presented by Bro. John Garside, relative to the charges brought by Bro. Bartholomew West against Past Master Prudden Alling and Joseph Hollingsworth, as follows:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey:

The subscribers, a committee appointed by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Jersey, May 7th, 1844, to try charges preferred by Bro. Bartholomew West against Bro's Prudden Alling and Joseph Hollingsworth, beg leave to report—

That the duties assigned them have been attended to, as far a practicable. Wishing to afford every facility to the parties, and have a fair and impartial investigation of the matters referred to them, five meetings of the said committee were appointed, two at St. John's, No. 1, Lodge-room, the first of which was adjourned on account of the inclemency of the weather. At the second, the committee could not obtain entrance into the room, the key of the same, for some reason unknown to them, not being produced, whereupon they adjourned to the Newark Lodge-room, and there proceeded to investigate the case.

The committee find, upon evidence of Bro's Allen Osborne, Alexander Dickerson, Luther Goble, William Ross, Daniel B. Bruen and Henry K. Ingraham, some certifying as to some points, and others to others, that Bro. Alling did make the representations in the Grand Lodge, as contained in charge 1, specification 1, and that Bro. Joseph Hollingsworth was present, and countenanced the statements then made, that St.

John's Lodge, No. 1, had contributed, or paid over, one hundred dollars in charities within the year preceding that time, and asked the said Grand Lodge, on that plea, to remit the dues of said Lodge for two years, and that the dues of one year were remitted.

They find that Bro. Alling admitted to one of the witnesses, on the evening specified in charge 2, specifications 1 and 2, he had the warrant of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, in his pocket on said evening; and that the said warrant was not produced in the said Lodge that evening; and that he also said, on that occasion, that said Lodge could not hold their election, or do anything without said warrant.

They also find that the Secretary's desk was locked, as specified in charge 3, specification 1, and that Bro. Alling was at the said desk before the Lodge was opened, but left previous thereto, and that the record of minutes and book of dues were missing on the said evening.

They find specification 2, of charge 3 true, as charged, and specification 3, of same charge, true, as to Bro. Alling's not doing his duty as Secretary, on evening specified, and that refreshments were provided in the room adjoining the Lodge-room without an order of the Lodge; but by whom provided, is not proved.

They find that a demand was made of Bro. Alling for the books and seal of St. John's Lodge on several occasions; but that the books and seal, as mentioned in charge 3, specifications 4 and 5, have never been returned to the Lodge, and that, for want of the seal, several documents necessary to have been made out, have not been done. Bro. Alling denied having any other books than what he gave up.

They find that Bro. Alling signed a paper, which is referred to in charge 4, specifications 1, 2 and 3, which paper is marked Exhibit No. 1, and produced as part of this report; and that, at the time of presenting said paper to the Most Worshipful Grand Master, he, the said Prudden Alling, was not a member of St. John's Lodge, No. 1; also, that the warrant of St. John's Lodge was in Bro. Alling's possession on the evening of December 13th, 1843, and he knew where it was; and that Bro. Samuel Smith was not confined to his bed, as alleged in the said paper, but was in the room adjoining the Lodge-room on the evening specified, though in ill health.

They find that Bro. Alling, as charged in charge 5, specifications 1 and 2, did interrupt the Most Worshipful Grand Master on the evening therein specified, and did charge that what the Most Worshipful Grand Master said on that occasion was false. And they find that Bro. Alling, as charged in charge 6, specifications 1, 2 and 3, is guilty of uncourteous and ungentlemanly conduct towards his brethren who differ from him in opinion, and has been known to be intoxicated and to be profane in his conversation.

In the case of Bro. Joseph Hollingsworth, the committee find, under

charge 1, specifications 1 and 2, that he was present at the Grand Communication of the Grand Lodge, did hear the statements made as charged, and made no objection thereto, but acquiesced therein.

As charged in charge 2, specification 1, he neglected to come to the Lodge on the evening specified; but was present before the Lodge was opened, and was in the room adjoining after the Lodge was closed.

They find that, as charged in charge 3, specifications 1, 2 and 3, Bro. Hollingsworth did sign a paper, which is marked No. 1, and here produced as a part of this report, and that he was seen in the room adjoining the Lodge-room on the evening of December 13th, 1843, to which the paper refers, and on which evening he was asked by one of the brothers if he was "not coming up to the Lodge to open it," and replied thereto, "we have no warrant."

But there is no evidence that Bro. Hollingsworth knew that Bro. Smith was in the Lodge-room, or room adjoining the Lodge-room, on the evening of December 13th, 1843, or to the contrary, but that Bro. Smith was sick, and had the warrant, as mentioned in said paper.

They find that, as charged in charge 4, specifications 1 and 2, and charge 5, specification 2, Bro. Hollingsworth did interrupt the Most Worshipful Grand Master on the evening therein specified in an uncourteous manner, and pronounced what the Most Worshipful Grand Master said to be false, and used loud and improper conversation, as charged.

The committee would here state, that Bro's Alling and Hollingsworth appeared before them on three several occasions, but did not remain or were present during the taking of the testimony which has produced this report. On no occasion did they object to the action of this committee, except on the last evening of meeting of your committee. In the course of the said last meeting they both presented themselves, and objected to proceeding in the trial or having anything to do with it. Bro. Alling objected, for the reason that he had not been served with a copy of the charges, knew not of what he was charged, and could make no defence for that reason. Bro. Hollingsworth objected that the trial was not as provided for by Masonic Constitution and usage; that, not being a member of any Lodge, he could be tried by no other Lodge than the nearest Blue Lodge to where he resided. Both brethren engaged to furnish your committee with their objections in writing.

Your committee felt that they could not entertain these objections, as their duties were specifically pointed out, and therefore proceeded on with the investigation; and in the absence of rebutting testimony, are led to the conclusion, from the evidence before them, that the charges and specifications preferred against Bro's Alling and Hollingsworth are and have been sustained, to such a degree as to warrant the committee in reporting them guilty.

JOHN GARSIDE,
JOHN R. CROCKETT.

On motion, that the report of the committee be received, and the communications from Past Master Prudden Alling and Joseph Hollingsworth, be laid on the table. Agreed to.

On motion, that Past Master Prudden Alling be expelled, and Bro. Joseph Hollingsworth be suspended from all the benefits and privileges of Masonry for the space of one year. Unanimously agreed to.

On motion, that the expulsion of Past Master Prudden Allem be communicated to all the Grand Lodges in the United States. Unanimously agreed to.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence reported as follows:

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to report—

That they have examined printed communications from the following States, viz.: Maine, Maryland, Florida, Arkansas, New York, New Hampshire, Mississippi, Iowa, Kentucky, Connecticut, Tennessee, Virginia, Massachusetts, Ohio, Georgia, Alabama, Texas, and the Grand Lodge of the Netherlands, also the proceedings of the Grand Chapters of Connecticut and Kentucky, in which only are communicated the printed proceedings of their different Grand Lodges in correspondence with this Grand Lodge, and find nothing in said communications which requires the action of the Grand Lodge at the present time.

WM. H. EARL,
IRA MERCHANT.

On motion, the report was accepted.

The Committee on the Treasurer's Accounts, reported as follows:

The Committee on the Treasurer's Accounts beg leave to make the following report—

That they have examined his books, and that, after paying the current expenses of the Grand Lodge, there remained in his hands, last year, the sum of thirteen dollars and thirteen cents, which he paid over to the executors of the late Grand Secretary; and has received at the present Communication thirty-two dollars, as follows:

Brearley Lodge, No. 2	$2 50
Newark, " " 7	18 00
Trenton, " " 5	7 50
Franklin, " " 10	4 00
	$32 00

All which is respectfully submitted.

B. WEST,
WM. KERWOOD.

On motion, the report was accepted.

The committee to whom was referred the Grand Master's address and the Grand Secretary's report, presented the following:

The committee to whom was referred the communications of the Most Worshipful Grand Master and the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, would beg leave respectfully to report—

That so much of the Most Worshipful Grand Master's report, relating to certain charges preferred by Bro's Jabez T. Baldwin and Benjamin S. Shultz, against Bro's Luther Goble and Bartholomew West, in this Grand Lodge, that Bro's Baldwin and Shultz deserve a severe censure from this Grand Lodge.

Your committee would also call the attention of this Grand Lodge to the consideration of that part of the Grand Secretary's report relative to raising the Grand Lodge dues to the sum of fifty cents, in lieu of twenty-five cents, which your committee would respectfully recommend.

IRA MERCHANT,
WM. KERWOOD,
WM. H. EARL.

On motion, the report was accepted.

It was *Ordered*, That the Grand Lodge dues hereafter be fifty cents.

It was *Ordered*, That a vote of censure be passed upon Jabez T. Baldwin and Benjamin S. Shultz, members of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, for bringing charges against members of this Grand Lodge without authority.

It was *Ordered*, That the Grand Secretary notify the Subordinate Lodges who have not made report for the last two years, to be represented at the next Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge.

A communication was read from Cincinnati Lodge, for permission to remove their Lodge to Morristown.

It was *Ordered*, That the communication be referred to the Grand Master, for him to take such action as he may deem expedient.

A communication, in the nature of a report of a committee from Newark Lodge, No. 7, was read, as follows:

The committee to whom was referred the allegations made by George A. Backus to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of this State, that the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master was intoxicated while presiding as Worshipful Master of this Lodge, beg leave to report—

That they have made diligent inquiries of Bro's Bruen, West, and others, in relation to the allegations of George A. Backus, and that they cannot find the least shadow of evidence to sustain his foul, slanderous

and calumniating charges; that, on the contrary, the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master has always sustained a fair and unsullied reputation as a Mason and a citizen; and your committee would recommend the following resolutions, viz..

1st. That the communication of George A. Backus, addressed to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of this State, is false and slanderous on the individual charged in it.

2d. That the charge of intoxication against the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, William H. Earl, while presiding as Master of Newark Lodge, No. 7, is a slander on this Lodge in the person of its presiding officer, and a stigma on his personal character which this Lodge feels bound to repel.

3d. That this Lodge instruct the Standing Committee to prefer charges against George A. Backus in this Lodge.

4th. That a certified copy of the foregoing preamble and resolutions be sent to the Grand Lodge at its next Annual Communication.

S. S. Morris,
Wm. S. B. Clark,
Harvey Park.

I do hereby certify the above preamble and resolutions of the committee to be correctly copied from the minutes of Newark Lodge, No. 7.

November 11th, A. L. 5844.

Milton Baldwin, *Secretary.*

On motion, it was ordered that the above be entered on the minutes.

The communication from the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Georgia recommending R. L. Roddy, of Forsythe, our representative in the Grand Lodge of that State, was ordered to be laid on the table.

The following bills were ordered to be paid:

John E. David, $6; Sherman & Harron, $2; Grand Secretary, $3.16; Sylvester Vansyckle, (Tyler) $4, and the balance on hand ($16.84) to be paid to the executors of our late Grand Secretary.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor for a short space of time, to make nominations for Grand Officers. Nominations were made, and the Grand Lodge was called to labor.

An election was held, which resulted as follows:

M. W. William H. Earl, of Newark, Grand Master.
R. W. Ira Merchant, of Newark, Deputy Grand Master.
" " John P. Lewis, of Eatontown, Senior Grand Warden.
" " Allen Osborne, of Camptown, Junior Grand Warden.
" " Joseph H. Hough, of Trenton, Grand Secretary.
" " Staats S. Morris, of Newark, Deputy Grand Secretary.
" " Elias Phillips, of Trenton, Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Officers were duly installed by Past Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen, with the exception of the Senior Grand Warden, he not being present, was installed by proxy.

It was on motion *Ordered*, That this Grand Lodge hold an adjourned meeting at the city of Newark, on Tuesday, the 6th day of May next, at 10 o'clock A. M., at the Hall of Newark Lodge, No. 7.

It was on motion *Ordered*, That the Grand Secretary notify each Subordinate Lodge of the adjourned meeting of this Grand Lodge, to be held in the city of Newark.

The Grand Master made the following appointments:

Rev. W. Jonathan Brooks, of Bridgeton, Grand Chaplain.
" Samuel B. Scattergood, of Trenton, S. G. Deacon.
" David S. Anderson, of Trenton, J. G. Deacon.
" Samuel Raby, of Trenton, Grand Marshal.
" Edward Stewart, of Newark, Grand Stewart.
Bro. Sylvester Vansyckle, of Trenton, Grand Tyler.

The Throne of Grace was addressed by the Grand Chaplain, and the Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge was closed, to meet on the 6th day of May next, at the city of Newark, unless sooner convened by the proper authority.

JOS. H. HOUGH, *G. Secretary.*

DECEMBER SESSION, 1844.

MORRISTOWN, December 26th, A. L. 5844.

Pursuant to invitation and notice from the members of Cincinnati Lodge, No. 3, the Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey met at the above named place, for the purpose of installing the officers elect of said Lodge for the current year.

PRESENT.

M. W. WILLIAM H. EARL, Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN R. CROCKETT, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. EDWARD STEWART, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOSEPH DALRIMPLE, Grand Treasurer, p. t.
R. W. STAATS S. MORRIS, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. IRA MERCHANT, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
R. W. JOHN C. LITTELL, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
BRO. JOHN HULTZ, Grand Tyler, p. t.

After the installation of James Clark as Worshipful Master, Edwin Wilson as Senior Warden, Jabez Beers as Junior Warden, Joseph Dalrimple as Treasurer, George Vail as Secretary, the Grand Lodge was regularly opened in Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason degrees, in due and ancient form.

Whereupon, on motion, Mr. John Casey had permission to be entered, passed and raised to the degree of Master Mason; and, being duly prepared, was accordingly entered, passed and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, and received full instruction.

Received $4 from Cincinnati Lodge, No. 3, for a dispensation empowering them to remove from Whippany to Morristown.

There being no further business, the Grand Lodge was duly closed, in accordance with ancient usage.

STAATS S. MORRIS, *D. G. Secretary.*

ADJOURNED SESSION, 1845.

NEWARK, May 6th, A. L. 5845.

An adjourned meeting of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Jersey was held at the above named place.

PRESENT.

M. W. WILLIAM H. EARL, Grand Master.
R. W. IRA MERCHANT, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN P. LEWIS, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. ALLEN OSBORNE, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. GEORGE VAIL, Grand Secretary, p. t.
R. W. ELIAS PHILLIPS, Grand Treasurer.
REV. R. W. JONATHAN BROOKS, Grand Chaplain.
R. W. THOMAS BELCHER, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
R. W. EDWARD STEWART, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.

LODGES REPRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

Thomas Youngs, W. M., John R. Crockett, S. W., J. C. Littell, J. W., St. John's Lodge, No. 1.

James Clark, W. M., Jabez Beers, S. W., Cincinnati Lodge, No. 3.

Elias Phillips, P. M., Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

John P. Lewis, P. M., Washington Lodge, No. 9.

Thomas Belcher, S. W., Lyman S. Averill, P. M., Franklin Lodge, No. 10.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. The Throne of Grace was addressed by the Grand Chaplain.

The minutes of the last Annual Communication were read.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master read the following address:

BRETHREN—At our last Annual Grand Communication you saw fit, in your pleasure, to confer on me the honor of presiding over your deliberations for the year then ensuing, for which honor I take this opportunity of expressing my grateful acknowledgments.

Since then there has no circumstance come to my knowledge, within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, which should tend to disturb or make void the harmony that should exist among brethren and Masons; there has, notwithstanding, some circumstances transpired which I feel my duty to lay before this Grand Lodge, which I shall do as briefly as possible.

Not long after the meeting of the Grand Lodge, I received a letter from Bro. Hough, stating that the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York had requested from him, or from this Grand Lodge, two wax impressions of our Grand Seal to send to the Netherlands, for what purpose I did not ascertain, and therefore could not feel myself justified in directing him to grant the request, without first laying it before this Grand Body. At the same time I would state that I have been informed that the Grand Lodge of New York has passed a resolution prohibiting their Subordinate Lodges from admitting any brethren as visitors without a Grand Lodge certificate.

Some time near the last of December, by a petition from Cincinnati Lodge for a dispensation, not only to authorize them to legally resuscitate their Lodge, to enter and make Masons, but also to remove their Lodge from Whippany to Morristown, in the same county, I, together with the Deputy Grand Master and other brethren, repaired to Morristown, and opened Cincinnati Lodge in due and ancient form. Their dispensation was then read to them by the Deputy Grand Secretary, which was satisfactory, and their officers were duly installed. I then, by their request, closed their Lodge and opened an Emergent Grand Lodge, and conferred the three degrees of Masonry on one candidate, the work done by Bro. Deputy Grand Master. Subsequently, with Bro. Merchant and others, I again repaired to Morristown and opened an Emergent Grand Lodge, when three persons had the three degrees conferred on them.

I would further beg leave to state to the Grand Lodge, that some short time since Franklin Lodge, at Camptown, or Clinton, had an application from a person residing in Newark to be made a Mason in their Lodge. In that case the second section of the General Regulations of the Grand Lodge was not complied with, and the first degree was conferred on him. I immediately wrote to the Master of that Lodge, prohibiting him or them from taking any further action in that case until this extra meeting of the Grand Lodge should be held, when that case would be laid before them.

All of which is respectfully submitted for the deliberation and action of this Grand Lodge.

Wm. H. Earl, *G. Master.*

Bro. George Vail, Grand Secretary pro tem., a delegate from Cincinnati Lodge, No. 3, presented report of said Lodge since its resuscitation, and also returned the dispensation of the Grand Lodge, and asked, in the name of Cincinnati Lodge, No. 3, a warrant in its stead, said dispensation being to the next annual meeting.

It was on motion *Ordered*, That the present dispensation be continued until the warrant be made out, sealed and signed; and the Grand Secretary was ordered to make out and transmit the same to said Lodge at Morristown.

The Grand Master represented that the Grand Lodge of the State of New York had passed a resolution instructing the Subordinate Lodges to refuse admittance of any members of Lodges of other States, without a certificate of membership from the Grand Lodge under which they work. The Grand Lodge of New Jersey not granting any certificates, and the members of Lodges in New Jersey being thereby prevented from visiting, the Grand Master considers it but right that this Grand Lodge should protest against such law, as inimical to the interests and well being of Masonry. He presented the subject for the consideration and action of this Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till 2 o'clock P. M.

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2 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge met. Officers as before.

It was on motion *Ordered*, That the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge be instructed to refuse the request of the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York for two wax impressions of the seal of our Grand Lodge.

Representation being made to the Grand Lodge that the Grand Lodge of the State of New York had adopted a resolution refusing to admit any persons, no matter how well they may support their claims as Masons, by explanations or otherwise, except they have a certificate from the Grand Lodge under which they reside,

It was on motion *Ordered*, That a committee of three be appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of this Grand Lodge upon the subject, and that the same be forwarded to the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, at their annual meeting in June next.

Thereupon the Grand Master appointed Past Grand Masters Daniel B. Bruen, of No. 7, Luther Goble, of No. 1, James Clark, of No. 3.

Newark Lodge, No. 7, was represented by John Garside, Worshipful Master.

Representation being made by the Grand Master of a violation of section 2 of General Regulations, in the initiation of Mulford W. Casterline in Franklin Lodge, No. 10—while the subject was being discussed,

It was on motion *Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to investigate the E. P. and R. of Mulford W. Casterline, James Pierson and Bernard McCormick, in Franklin Lodge, No. 10, contrary to the rules prescribed in section 2 of the General Regulations of this Grand Lodge.

Whereupon the Grand Master appointed Past Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen, Bartholomew West, Thomas Youngs, John R. Crockett and John Garside.

Bro. Israel C. Losey's bill for tyling Grand Lodge, May 9th, A. L. 5844, one day, $2.

It was on motion *Ordered*, That one half the amount be allowed and paid.

A communication, signed W. Harris, Secretary pro tem., tendering the use of St. John's Lodge-room for the Grand Lodge, at this adjourned session, was read and received, placed on file, and the invitation accepted.

On motion, the report of the committee to investigate the conduct of Franklin Lodge, No. 10, was laid upon the table.

The following preamble and resolution were read and adopted:

Whereas, Franklin Lodge, No. 10, has innocently violated the second section of the General Regulations—therefore be it

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge do recognize the proceedings of Franklin Lodge, No. 10, in E. P. and R. Bernard McCormick and James Pierson, and also of entering Mulford W. Casterline.

The following preamble and resolutions were then offered by the committee appointed to report on the subject of the Grand Lodge certificate system of New York:

Whereas, The Grand Lodge of the State of New York did, at a previous meeting of said Grand Lodge, ordain that no brother should be admitted into any Subordinate Lodge under their jurisdiction without a Grand Lodge certificate—therefore be it

1st. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge believe that the principle of requiring Grand Lodge certificates from visitors, is not in accordance with the ancient landmarks of the Fraternity.

2d. That this Grand Lodge do not deem it expedient to adopt the Grand Lodge certificate system.

3d. That the proceedings of this Grand Lodge on this subject be communicated to the Grand Lodges throughout the United States.

The foregoing preamble and resolutions were severally adopted.

Bro. Ira Merchant gave notice of his intention to move an alteration in the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, at the next regular Communication, as follows:

Resolved, That all after the word "convenient," in the 12th line of the 18th section of the 1st article of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge, be stricken out.

It was on motion *Resolved*, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to St. John's Lodge, No. 1, for their kindness extended in offering the use of their room for the use of this adjourned session.

The Throne of Grace was addressed by the Rev. Grand Chaplain, and the Grand Lodge was then closed until the next regular Annual Communication, to be held at Trenton, on Tuesday, the 11th of November next, unless sooner convened by the proper authority.

GEORGE VAIL, *G. Secretary, p. t.*

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1845.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, the 11th of November, A. L. 5845, there were

PRESENT,

M. W. WILLIAM H. EARL, Grand Master.
R. W. IRA MERCHANT, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN R. CROCKETT, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. EDWARD STEWART, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Grand Secretary.
R. W. ELIAS PHILLIPS, Grand Treasurer.
Rev. & W. JONA. BROOKS, Grand Chaplain.
M. W. THOMAS YOUNGS, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
R. W. JOHN C. LITTELL, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
Bro. SYLVESTER VANSICKEL, Grand Tyler.
R. W. WILLIAM KERWOOD, Representative of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

LODGES REPRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

Thomas Youngs, W. M., John R. Crockett, S. W., J. C. Littell, J. W., St. John's Lodge, No. 1.
Isaac H. Hampton, W. M., George Ayres, J. W., Brearley Lodge, No. 2.
James Clark, W. M., Cincinnati Lodge, No. 3.
William K. Mason, W. M., Tuckerton Lodge, No. 4.
Edward Stewart, S. W., Newark Lodge, No. 7.
Thomas Belcher, W. M., Franklin Lodge, No. 10.

Subordinates made their return as follows, and paid their dues:

St. John's	Lodge,	No. 1,	on 33	members,	for 1844,	$8.25	
"	"	"	42	"	1845,	21.00—	$29 25
Brearley	"	2,	12	"	"		6 00
Cincinnati	"	3,	34	"	"		17 00
Tuckerton	"	4,	5	"	" 1844 and '45,		5 00
Trenton	"	5,	30	"	" 1845,		15 00
Newark	"	7,	39	"	" "		19 50
Franklin	"	10,	14	"	" "		7 00
Washington	"	9,		"	" 1844,		3 16
	Amount of receipts,						$101 91

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form; the Throne of Grace was addressed by the Grand Chaplain.

The minutes of the last Grand Annual and adjourned meetings were read and approved.

The Grand Secretary made the following report, which was accepted:

TRENTON, November 11th, 5845.

On the 17th of February last a circular was issued, containing a list of the names of the officers, together with the notice of expulsion of Past Master Prudden Alling, late of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, and sent to the several Grand Lodges, to wit, Maine, Georgia, District of Columbia, Louisiana, South Carolina, Michigan, Alabama, Rhode Island, Arkansas, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, Wisconsin, New York, North Carolina, Connecticut, Florida, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, New Hampshire, Ohio and Texas.

On the 10th of March I received from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, a list of their officers, with their signatures; also, a resolution passed by that body at their annual meeting in January, as follows:

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be requested to correspond with the several Grand Lodges in the United States, informing them of the new organization of this Grand Lodge, and respectfully requesting them to acknowledge the jurisdiction of the same, and withdraw all dispensations or charters granted by them to any body of Masons within this State."

I would recommend that their request be complied with.

On the 29th of May I received a communication, through Bro. C. W. Moore, of Boston, containing an extract from the minutes of the Grand Lodge of Bengal, and other matters, to which I would direct the attention of the Committee on Correspondence.

On the 5th of June last, I received a communication from the Grand Lodge of Texas, wishing more frequent correspondence, and the appointment of a representative to represent us in the Grand Lodge of that republic.

On the 30th of August I received a communication from the Grand Lodge of Maryland, enclosing two resolutions relative to the proposition of a General Grand Lodge of the United States.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOS. H. HOUGH.

The Grand Master appointed the following committees:

Foreign Correspondence—Ira Merchant and Isaac H. Hampton.

Treasurer's Accounts—Thomas Belcher and Edward Stewart.

The proposed alteration to the By-Laws, presented at the adjourned meeting in May last, was, on motion, adopted.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until 2 o'clock P. M.

---

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor. Officers and representatives as before.

The committee made a verbal report on the Grand Treasurer's accounts—that he had in his hands the sum of one hundred and one dollars and ninety-one cents.

On motion, the report was received and the committee discharged.

The following preamble and resolution were read and adopted:

Whereas, Information has been received by this Grand Lodge that Joseph Hollingsworth has, since his suspension and within the last six months, visited spurious Masonic Lodges in the city of New York—therefore be it

Resolved, That the said Joseph Hollingsworth's suspension be extended to the next meeting of this Grand Lodge, and that a committee be appointed to investigate the above information.

Referred to Thomas Youngs, Ira Merchant and Edward Stewart

Trenton Lodge, No. 5, was represented by S. B. Scattergood, Senior Warden.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence reported as follows:

The committee to whom was referred the Foreign Correspondence, beg leave to report—

That they have examined the foreign written communications before them, and find nothing of importance to this Grand Lodge for its present action.

They have also examined the printed communications before them, and find them so numerous that they would recommend the appointment of a special committee to take the same into consideration, and to report at the next meeting of this Grand Lodge.

IRA MERCHANT,
ISAAC H. HAMPTON.

November 11th, 5843.

On motion, the report was received and the committee discharged.

The committee on the resolutions relating to Grand Lodge certificates not being ready to report, were ordered to be continued until the next annual meeting.

The resolutions on the minutes of the annual meeting of 1842, censuring Past Grand Masters John S. Darcy and and Jeptha B. Munn, were called up for consideration.

On motion *Ordered*, That the vote of censure passed against Past Grand Masters John S. Darcy and Jeptha B. Munn, in 1842, be dissolved, and the Grand Secretary requested to notify them.

On motion *Ordered*, That a standing committee of three be appointed to examine the printed and written correspondence, one of them to be the Grand Secretary.

Referred to William Kerwood, Elias Phillips and Joseph H. Hough.

On motion, that the resolution offered by Bro. John J. Frisbee, in 1842, be and the same is hereby rescinded; laid over till next annual meeting.

The resolution referred to is as follows:

Resolved, That so much of the Constitution and General Regulations of this Grand Lodge as requires the subordinate offices thereof to be filled by Past Masters, be rescinded.

On motion *Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to inquire into and report what property, or claim on property, this Grand Lodge has in the city of Trenton, and report at the annual meeting.

Committee—William Kerwood, Charles Burroughs and Joseph H. Hough.

On motion, that the By-Laws be so altered as to read "the Grand Lodge be held alternately in the cities of Trenton and Newark;" laid over till the next annual meeting.

A motion to reduce the Grand Lodge dues to twenty-five cents, as formerly, was laid over until the next annual meeting.

The dispensation now in possession of Cincinnati Lodge, No. 3, was ordered to remain good until such time as a new warrant could be made out.

Bro. Edward Stewart was appointed a committee to receive the jewels, &c., the property of Lebanon Lodge, No. 6, and the Grand Secretary requested to give him a certificate of appointment.

The following bills were ordered paid: Grand Secretary, paper for circulars, $1.87½; postage, $4.25; printing circulars, $3; advertising, $1; three years' services as Secretary, $60; Sylvester Vansickle, one day's tyling, $2; to the Grand Chaplain, $10.

On motion *Ordered*, That the appointment of Grand Representative be discontinued in foreign Grand Lodges, and all communications, &c., be directed to the Grand Secretary.

Bro. William Kerwood, Representative of the Grand Lodge of New York, wished to know whether this Grand Lodge recognizes him as the Representative of the Grand Lodge of New York.

The chair decided that he was not considered as such.

On motion, that we proceed to nominate and elect officers for the ensuing, it was agreed to.

On motion *Ordered*, That the balance remaining in the Treasurer's hands be paid over to Mrs. Mershon, the widow of our late Grand Secretary.

The Chair appointed Isaac H. Hampton judge, and Thomas Belcher teller, to conduct the election, who reported the following:

M. W. Ira Merchant, of Newark, Grand Master.
R. W. John P. Lewis, of Eatontown, Deputy Grand Master.
" " James Clark, of Morristown, Senior Grand Warden.
" " Allen Osborne, of Clinton, Junior Grand Warden.
" " Joseph H. Hough, of Trenton, Grand Secretary.
" " Staats S. Morris, of Newark, Deputy Grand Secretary.
" " Elias Phillips, of Trenton, Grand Treasurer.

On motion *Resolved*, That the Annual meeting of this Grand Lodge be held hereafter on the second Wednesday in January, yearly and every year.

Laid over till the next annual meeting.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the installation of officers, viz.:

James Clark was installed by Thomas Youngs, as proxy.

Allen Osborne was installed by Edward Stewart, as proxy.

Elias Phillips was installed by William Kerwood, as proxy.

Staats S. Morris was installed by Thomas Belcher, as proxy.

On motion *Ordered*, That an extra meeting be held in the city of Newwark, at St. John's Lodge-room, on the second Tuesday of May next, and the Grand Secretary be instructed to notify the several Subordinate Lodges.

On motion *Ordered*, That the salary of the Grand Secretary be twenty dollars per annum.

On motion *Ordered*, That the Grand Secretary be requested to publish a circular, giving a list of the officers, and send it to the several Grand Lodges in correspondence with this.

The Grand Lodge then closed, to meet on the second Tuesday in May next, at the city of Newark, unless sooner convened by the proper authority.

ADJOURNED SESSION, 1846.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge met at St. John's Lodge-room, Newark, May 12th, A. L. 5856, pursuant to adjournment, there being

PRESENT,

M. W. IRA MERCHANT, Grand Master.
R. W. JAMES CLARK, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. ALLEN OSBORNE, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. GEORGE VAIL, Senior Grand Deacon.
R. W. EDWARD STEWART, Junior Grand Deacon.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Grand Secretary.
R. W. ELIAS PHILLIPS, Grand Treasurer.

LODGES REPRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

Isaac P. Brown, S. W., St. John's Lodge, No. 1.
George Vail, S. W., Cincinnati Lodge, No. 3.
Edward Stewart, W. M., Newark Lodge, No. 7.

The minutes of the annual meeting were read.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master presented the following address:

BRETHREN—We are again assembled as a Grand Lodge, at its semi-annual meeting; and, on meeting you on this occasion, I am happy to inform you that our institution, since our last meeting, has been steady in its progress and peaceful in its results, and the sound of the gavel is again heard where it has long ceased to call the Craft from refreshment to labor. Brethren, here you are introduced to associates whose warm and generous souls, whose enlightened and elevated minds, are drawn towards each other by wishes the most virtuous and sentiments the most sublime. Here you enter into a faithful, tender and refined friendship. In this intimate and endeared connection the inclinations are free, the feelings genuine, the sentiments unbiased, and the undisguised communication of thoughts and wishes, of pleasures and pains, show that the confidence is mutual, sincere and entire.

Since we last met I have granted a dispensation for resuscitating Union Lodge, of Orange, which is now in successful operation; and it will be your province and your duty either to grant or withhold a legal warrant for the same.

In December last I received information from some of the brethren of Cincinnati Lodge, No. 3, that they had, at their last annual election, elected a brother to the office of Master of the Lodge, who had never served as a Warden in any Lodge. On receiving this information, I informed them that the election was illegal, except in extreme cases, such as forming a new Lodge, or resuscitating an old one. In coming to this decision I was governed by the Ancient Constitutions, which expressly say, that no brother can serve as Master of a Lodge who has not first served as a Warden. I therefore granted said Cincinnati Lodge a dispensation to hold a new election, which was accordingly done, and its officers duly installed into their respective offices.

I have also granted two dispensations for making Masons without the usual form of petitioning one month, according to the Grand Lodge regulations, viz.: one to St. John's Lodge, No. 1, and one to Cincinnati Lodge, No. 3.

There is one subject to which I wish particularly to call your attention, it is in relation to individual members of Lodges in the State of New Jersey being refused admission as visitors into the Lodges of the State of

New York. You recollect that this same subject was before you at our Communication one year since, in consequence of the non-admittance of one of the members of St. John's Lodge. Since that time and very recently, one of our Past Grand Masters was absolutely refused admission into one of their Lodges, because he had not a Grand Lodge certificate. I would ask, in the name of the Fraternity, is this Masonry? are these the principles which are inculcated in the several Masonic lectures? I think not; but I leave this subject for your consideration and decision.

But, my brethren, in congratulating you on the bright prospects of the Lodges under our jurisdiction, I have still another duty to perform. On looking around us we behold a vacancy, and it behooves us to inquire what is the cause and who is the victim. Death, that great leveller, has been in our midst, and our venerable and beloved brother and Grand Chaplain is no more.

Dear is estimated the name of friend, lovely is the relation which cements congenial souls; but dearer still the amity, more intimate the connection, my brethren, which unites our hands and hearts. How painful, then, the catastrophe in which is dissolved so close and so affectionate a tie. Alas! how forcibly do we feel this now. Death, regardless of those sweet engagements, those pleasing intercourses, and those improving joys which Masons know, has suddenly summoned away one of the venerable officers of this Grand Lodge. We beheld his sun in its meridian, and rejoiced in its brightness; it is now set, and the evening shades of its existence have closed around him. Blessed be his rest, and soft and safe to him the mortal bed, while we his memory cherish, his virtues admire, and his death improve.

I hope, my brethren, in coming hither, you will gather restoration from the past, refreshment for the present, and resources against the future; and you will return back to the world with a calm, resolute, and well fortified mind, better filled to meet the trials, and better enabled to bear the burthen of life. Though the ignorant suspect and the prejudiced stigmatize your views and labors, fear not their reproaches, neither be afraid of their revilings; notwithstanding all their united attacks and pertinacious opposition, Masonry will still retain its influence and its credit, and, like its own well-compacted arch, will ever be rendered more firm and strong by the pressure and the weight it bears. It is rendered still more secure if the members grow more and more united in judgment and affection to each other and in their attachment to the Ancient Constitutions, privileges, and principles of the Craft. This is the more necessary at the present time, because our most formidable opponents commence the deductions of their proofs with an account of schisms in Masonry.

Among the variety of duties incumbent on you, remember there are none more essential to the preservation, none more efficacious to the

welfare of our institution than unanimity. This makes the cement, the great principle of cohesion which gives compactness to all the parts and members, and forms them into a regular structure, into one uniform building, and adds harmony and beauty, firmness and stability, to the whole. Or it is like the keystone, which compacts and strengthens the arch on which the edifice is supported and upheld.

Having but one interest and one object, the benefit and the advancement of the Fraternity, be persuaded to pursue it with concurring harmony and joint agreement. While particularly interested in the welfare of the Lodges to which you individually belong be regardful of the general welfare, and let there be no other contest among you than that most honorable contest, who shall do the most good.

IRA MERCHANT.

May 12th, A. L. 5846.

On motion, the address was accepted.

On motion, that a Committee on Correspondence be appointed to take into consideration what is received the present year.

Past Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen, George Vail and John R. Crockett were appointed.

The Grand Lodge was called off till 2 o'clock P. M.

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2 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor. Officers as before.

On motion *Ordered*, That the Grand Secretary have 300 copies of the Constitution, By-Laws and General Regulations of the Grand Lodge printed; also 200 blank reports, the former to have marginal references.

The address of the Grand Master was again read, and, on motion, it was referred to Past Masters George Vail, Philip Kingsley and Bartholomew West.

The Grand Master brought forward the case of Joseph Hollingsworth, as one of the committee on that subject, and stated verbally what had been stated to him by Bro. Casterline.

It was *Ordered*, That Bro. Casterline be called upon to make a statement of what transpired when on a visit to New York.

Bro. Casterline then made his statement, which went to criminate Bro. Hollingsworth, as being with expelled Masons in said city, it being the day of the funeral procession of Past Grand Master Andrew Jackson.

On motion *Ordered*, That the suspension of Joseph Hollingsworth be continued until the annual meeting, in order to let him exonerate himself from the charge of visiting expelled Masons in the city of New York.

The vote was then taken, and there being a tie, the chair gave its decision in the affirmative.

On motion, the Grand Secretary was requested to get blank warrants printed.

On motion, that the dispensation to Union Lodge, No. 11, be continued until a warrant be made and signed in due form, agreed to.

The following charges and specifications were presented by Past Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen, against Past Master Samuel Smith, (read and laid on the table) as follows:

CHARGE 1.—Neglect of duty and violation of obligation as Worshipful Master of St. John's Lodge, No. 1.

Specification 1.—With declaring in his station, while acting as Senior Warden pro tem. of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, on the evening of the meeting next subsequent to the election in said lodge, held on the evening of December 13th, 1843, that he was in the room adjoining the Lodge-room on that evening, while St. John's Lodge, No. 1, was holding its election, and that he had the warrant in his possession, and that he was the proper person to be called on for it, the possession of which, and a neglect on his part to bring it into the Lodge; that the proper and legitimate authority for the opening the Lodge and holding its election without the interference of the Grand Officers or Grand Lodge, was not only a gross neglect of duty, but a high misdemeanor and a gross outrage on the rights of the Lodge, which he, as its Master, was bound to protect.

Specification 2. With neglect of duty, agreeably to his own declaration, as charged in specification 1, in not going into the Lodge with the warrant, and presiding as Master thereof, at the election of its officers on the evening of December 13th, 1843.

Specification 3. With violating his obligation on the evening of December 13th, 1843, (it being the evening of the election of officers in St. John's

Lodge, No. 1, over which he, the said Samuel Smith, had been elected and installed as its Master,) in not going into said Lodge, or sending the warrant, which, by his obligation, he was bound to do.

CHARGE 2. *Specification.* With declaring in the Grand Lodge, at their extra meeting held at Newark on the first Tuesday of May, 1844, that he had not the warrant of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, in his possession on the evening of December 13th, 1843, and declaring that had he known that the Lodge had not its warrant on that evening, he would have seen that they should have had it, and declared his ignorance that they were without their warrant on that evening, thereby making a false declaration to his assertions, as contained in charge 1, specification 1.

Trenton, November 10th, A. L. 5846.

The Grand Master made the following appointments:

Rev. W. John N. Lenhart, Grand Chaplain.

" Edward Stewart, Grand Steward.

Bro. Sylvester Vansickle, Grand Tyler.

On motion, the sum of two dollars be appropriated to the Grand Tyler pro tem. Agreed to.

On motion, that the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to St. John's Lodge, No. 1, for the use of their room this day, agreed to.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned, to meet in the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, the 10th of November next, unless sooner convened by the proper authority.

JOS. H. HOUGH, *G. Secretary.*

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1846.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Trenton, on Tuesday, the 10th of November, A. L. 5846, there were

PRESENT,

M. W. IRA MERCHANT, Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN R. CROCKETT, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOHN GARSIDE, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Grand Secretary.
R. W. ELIAS PHILLIPS, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. PHILIP KINGSLEY, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
R. W. ISAAC P. BROWN, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
Bro. SYLVESTER VANSICKLE, Grand Tyler.

VISITORS—Past Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen, Past Master Thomas Youngs.

LODGES REPRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

Isaac P. Brown, J. W., St. John's Lodge, No. 1.
Isaac H. Hampton, P. G. M., Brearley Lodge, No. 2.
Samuel B. Scattergood, W. M., Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
Edward Stewart, W. M., Newark Lodge, No. 7.
Thomas Belcher, W. M., Franklin Lodge, No. 10.
Philip Kingsley, W. M., Ichabod Harrison, S. W., Simeon Harrison, J. W., Union Lodge, No. 11.

The minutes of the last annual and extra meetings were read and approved.

The Grand Master read the following address:

BRETHREN—Another Masonic year has rolled away, and we have again assembled to legislate upon the subject of Masonry. And be assured, my brethren, it gives me sincere pleasure to meet once more the representatives of the Masonic Fraternity in the State of New Jersey under our jurisdiction, and I am deeply sensible of the responsibility of presiding in such an assembly as I now see before me.

I am happy to inform you that within our jurisdiction a zeal for the institution is greatly increasing, not only among those who are members of the Fraternity, but many who are not members.

Within the last Masonic year dispensations have been granted for resuscitating two Lodges, one at Orange, by the name of Union Lodge,

and one at the Little Falls, by the name of Essex County Lodge, the former of which is under very prosperous circumstances, but of the latter I am not informed of its success. It is also with pleasure I inform you that Washington Shrewsbury Lodge, which was revived in 1843, but from that time until the 6th of June of the present year, has done little or nothing. But since that date a new spirit has arisen among its members and entered apprentices, and raised six or eight individuals of the first standing in the place, one of which is an Episcopal clergyman.

I have visited this and most of the other Lodges in the northern part of the State, and have found them generally in a very prosperous and flourishing condition, and all working according to the ancient York rite.

I have said, my brethren, that we had met under favorable circumstances; but, while prosperity has crowned our efforts, death, that great leveller, has been in our midst, and taken from among us our venerable and respected Brother Brooks, the Grand Chaplain of this Lodge. He died in the comforts and consolation of the religion which he possessed, and every brother present who knew him must be fully satisfied that our loss is his eternal gain—that he has gone from a world of trouble and affliction to that of happiness and joy. In consequence of his death, it becomes my duty to appoint another Grand Chaplain to supply his place; I have accordingly appointed Brother Lenhart, of Paterson, as Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of this State, who, I am happy to inform you, has kindly accepted the appointment.

I would take this opportunity to call your attention to the propriety of making some very important alterations in our Grand Lodge Constitution and General Regulations, such as fixing the time and place for a half-yearly meeting, and also altering the time of our yearly Communication. It appears, by examination of the Constitution, that there is no fixed amount by which the Subordinate Lodges may enter, pass and raise candidates to the benefits of Masonry; while one Lodge requires one amount, another may perform the same work for less than one-quarter, making our noble Fraternity an institution of merchandise.

I would also commend to your favorable consideration the continuance of the present rate of our Grand Lodge dues, viz.: fifty cents from each individual member of Subordinate Lodges. Almost every Grand Lodge, my brethren, throughout the United States has accumulated a Grand Lodge fund, to resort to in case of necessity, and I know of no reason why the Grand Lodge of New Jersey cannot enjoy the same privilege. These, together with some other alterations in our Constitution, will, I have no doubt, meet with your cordial approbation. I would suggest the propriety of passing a resolution requiring Grand Certificates from individuals asking for private charity, as a barrier against imposition.

At our last yearly convocation a resolution was passed dispensing with the Grand Representative system, as a means of communication between

us and other Grand Lodges throughout the United States. I would therefore suggest the propriety of reconsidering that resolution, and again let us be recognized in the different Grand Lodges, and again be known as the Grand Lodge of New Jersey.

The committee to whom was referred the subject of the property of the Grand Lodge, at our last meeting, I hope will be able to make a full and satisfactory report.

I would also recommend the printing of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

I can only say to you, that it is my earnest desire that brotherly love and harmony may be the governing principle in all your proceedings, so that what we do may be done with a view of promoting the best interest, to advance the honor, and promote the happiness of the Masonic Institution.

IRA MERCHANT.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence reported as follows:

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence respectfully beg leave to report—

That, since the last Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, they have received and examined the journals of the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of the States of New Hampshire, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Missouri, Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin.

The journals of the proceedings of the Grand Lodges from which we have received communications are voluminous, containing, many of them, from fifty to one hundred and forty pages. These documents contain a vast amount of interesting matter for consideration, and exhibit pleasing evidence of the onward march of our noble Fraternity.

The short time generally taken by this Grand Lodge, at its Annual Communications to do its business, renders it impossible to show the general condition of the Masonic family under each Grand Jurisdiction.

The interchange of fraternal courtesies in the reciprocal exchange of journals, affords the best means of uniting our scattered family, and making us mutually acquainted with each other's condition and prospects.

Several Grand Lodges have adopted the representative system, and it seems to meet the general approbation of the Grand Lodges of the United States, with few exceptions.

A Grand Lodge certificate, required of a visitor by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, as a prerequisite for his examination and admission into the Subordinate Lodges under her jurisdiction, does not meet with the approbation of her sister Grand Lodges, and does not appear,

from a report of their proceedings, to have been adopted by any other. It is, in effect, isolating herself, and shutting out from Masonic communication with her all who will not be governed by her dictation. A brother hailing from under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, after passing a satisfactory examination by one of the Subordinate Lodges of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, was refused admission, unless he produced a Grand Lodge certificate from the Grand Lodge to which his Lodge was subordinate. A Past Grand officer of this Grand Lodge, who has had the honor of a seat in the East of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York when an officer of this Grand Lodge, was refused all Masonic communication by one of the Subordinate Lodges of the State of New York, when at the same time the Grand Lodge of the State of New York had a representative in this Grand Lodge, through whom was communicated all the proceedings of this Grand Lodge. On reviewing all these matters, this Grand Lodge came to the resolution that the certificate system virtually destroyed the representative, and answered no other end than as a source of revenue for certificates, and so abolished it.

There are rules and rites co-existent with Masonry itself, by which every Lodge may and should guard itself against all imposition, distinguish a true brother, let his country or language be ever so remote or obscure, and detect and expose false pretenders. To guard against the evils consequent upon the too prevalent disregard of these ample means, has doubtless been a motive for attaching to what are termed Grand Lodge certificates a sense which originally they did not have, and for exalting them, beyond their measure, into absolute requirements for brotherly recognition.

Your committee look upon the regulation of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, requiring Grand Lodge certificates as a prerequisite for examination and admission into her Subordinate Lodges, as an absolute regulation for the government of the Craft calculated to destroy all social intercourse and unsuited to the age and circumstances under which we live.

Query. Would or could the representatives of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, agreeably to their regulations, have been received in their Worshipful Body, or in one of their Subordinate Lodges, without a Grand Lodge certificate?

Your committee find, among the Foreign Correspondence, a great deal said on the subject of a General Grand Lodge. The proposition meets the approbation of some, and the decided disapprobation of others.

The subject of Masonic charities has justly occupied the attention of many Grand Lodges, particularly the subject of education. The Grand Lodges of Kentucky and Missouri have already established colleges, which are in a flourishing condition, and afford facilities for the gratuitous education of sons of deceased and destitute Masons. The Grand Lodges of the

States of Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Illinois, North Carolina, Wisconsin, Michigan, New York, and Indiana appear, from their proceedings, to fill the obligations they are under to the destitute children and orphans of the Masonic family, and are all moving in the cause of education. Your committee would call the attention of the Grand Lodge to a list of expulsions and suspensions in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Illinois, pages 99 to 106, but more particularly to the report of their Committee on Foreign Correspondence, pages 23 to 58. It is an ably written document, and treats on many matters of Masonic jurisprudence highly interesting to the Craft. The whole of their proceedings carry with them the evidence of their laborious zeal in endeavoring to establish and perpetuate the ancient landmarks of the Fraternity.

The sun of Masonry seems to shadow her face in this region, and to be breaking out resplendently in the South, but more particularly so in the West. The journals of the proceedings of many of their Grand Lodges evince that they are deliberative bodies of the highest order. The State of Wisconsin, within whose border was carried on within the last twenty years the savage strife of war with the aborigines of the country for the supremacy of the soil, has a Grand Lodge that has made a report of her proceedings worthy the example of her elder sisters. Although having scarcely one year's existence as a State, there was a representation, on the first day of the meeting of their Grand Lodge, of eight Lodges, who diligently pursued their labors for five days. The journal of their proceedings comprises 146 pages, in which is discussed many questions of vital importance to the Fraternity.

Your committee would call the attention of the Grand Lodge to the laborious duties performed by her sister Grand Lodges, for the purpose of reminding her of her inert state, and that there is a duty for her to perform. It is the spirited and prompt action of the Grand Lodge and its officers that infuses life and energy into her Subordinates.

Your committee would be glad to bring many subjects of interest before your body, did they think it possible to bring you to act on them; their object in shaping their report as they have, has been for the purpose of directing the attention of the Grand Lodge to the prosperity of the Fraternity in our younger sister States, while we, on the journals of the proceedings of any other Grand Lodge, are only noticed twice as having an existence merely.

We beg leg leave to suggest to the Grand Lodge the propriety hereafter of having a standing Committee on Foreign Correspondence, whose labors during the recess of Annual Communication might be advantageously employed. All of which is respectfully submitted.

DANIEL B. BRUEN,
JOHN R. CROCKETT.

Ordered, That the foregoing report be accepted.

The committee to whom was referred the matter of what is due the Grand Lodge in the city of Trenton, reported as follows:

Amount of bond July 1, 1796, £167 12*s.* 6*d.*, (see report of Committee on Grand Treasurer's Accounts, November 10, 1818)....	$447 00
Interest calculated by said committee (at 7 per cent.).....	275 75
	$722 75
Interest paid December 3, 1819, endorsed on bond.....	33 03
	$689 72
27 years' interest (less 27 days).....	843 09
Showing due the Grand Lodge from Trenton Lodge, No. 5, this 10th day of November, 1846.....	$1532 81

All which is respectfully submitted.

CHAS. BURROUGHS,
WM. KERWOOD,
JOS. H. HOUGH.

On motion, the report was accepted and committee discharged.

The Chair appointed Bro's Philip Kingsley and Edward Stewart the Committee on the Treasurer's Accounts.

On motion, the committee's report on the debt due from Trenton Lodge, No. 5, was referred to a special committee.

Committee—Bro's John R. Crockett, John Garside, and Thomas Belcher.

Charges against Past Master Samuel Smith were called up and read. They being all the former charges, with the exception of the sixth and seventh, the Chair declared the first five out of order.

On motion *Ordered*, That the sixth and seventh charges be in order, and referred to a committee of investigation.

Committee—Bro's Philip Kingsley, Thomas Belcher, and William H. Earl.

On motion *Ordered*, That the dispensation to Union Lodge, No. 11, be taken up, and a warrant issue.

Deputy Grand Master John P. Lewis and William W. Croxon, of Washington Shrewsbury Lodge, No. 9, took their seats.

The Grand Lodge was then called off till 2½ o'clock.

HALF-PAST 2 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor, officers and representatives as before.

On motion, the committee on the debt of Trenton Lodge, No. 5, were requested to report at the semi-annual meeting in May next.

On motion, that Bro. Joseph Hollingsworth be restored to his former standing. Bro's Past Grand Master Isaac H. Hampton and William W. Croxon were appointed tellers.

Brother Hampton excused from voting.

Fifteen ballots cast—affirmative 10, negative 5.

As all present did not vote, another ballot was ordered, which resulted—affirmative 12, negative 5.

Ordered, That he be notified by the Grand Secretary.

The amendment to the Constitution, made in 1842, "requiring all officers to be Past Masters," and stricken out, was again restored.

Amendment—that the annual meeting be held on the second Monday in January hereafter, was adopted unanimously.

The amendment to reduce the Grand Lodge dues to twenty-five cents, was not agreed to.

The Committee on the Treasurer's Accounts reported as follows:

Cash received of	St. John's Lodge,	No.	1		$21 00
"	"	Brearley	"	2	7 00
"	"	Trenton	"	5	12 50
"	"	Newark	"	7	20 00
"	"	Washington	"	9	5 00
"	"	Union	"	11	12 00
"	"	E. P. and R., a candidate by dispensation			4 00
					$88 00

Cash paid to Tyler of St. John's Lodge (May, 1846,)	$2 00	
" " Grand Secretary, salary, postage, &c	24 02	
" " Phillips & Boswell, printing	30 02	
" " Sherman & Harron, advertising	3 99	
" " Charles Scott, stationery	11 55	
" " Tyler, this day	2 00	
		$73 58
Balance in Treasurer's hands		$14 42

An election was held, and the following officers were duly elected and installed, as follows:

M. W. Ira Merchant, Grand Master.
R. W. John P. Lewis, Deputy Grand Master.
" " John R. Crockett, Senior Grand Warden.
" " John Garside, Junior Grand Warden.
" " Joseph H. Hough, Grand Secretary.
" " Daniel B. Bruen, Deputy Grand Secretary.
" " Elias Phillips, Grand Treasurer.

Ordered, That a semi-annual session be held in the city of Newark, on the second Tuesday in May next.

Ordered, That the proceedings of this meeting be printed, and a copy sent to each Grand, and two copies to each Subordinate Lodge in this State.

The Grand Lodge then closed, to re-open on Tuesday, May 11th, at the city of Newark, unless sooner convened by the proper authority.

JOS. H. HOUGH, *G. Secretary.*

ADJOURNED SESSION, 1847.

NEWARK, May 11th, A. L. 5847.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Jersey met, pursuant to a resolution passed at the Last Annual Communication, at Newark Lodge room.

PRESENT,

M. W. IRA MERCHANT, Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN R. CROCKETT, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. ISAAC P. BROWN, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. DANIEL B. BRUEN, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
R. W. PHILIP KINGSLEY, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Grand Secretary.
R. W. ELIAS PHILLIPS, Grand Treasurer.

VISITORS—Samuel Kay, Trenton Lodge, No. 5; Samuel Smith, St. John's Lodge, No. 1.

The roll of Lodges was called—not a quorum present.

Adjourned to 7 o'clock P. M.

SEVEN O'CLOCK P. M.

Grand Lodge called, officers as before.

No quorum—adjourned.

JOS. H. HOUGH, *G. Secretary.*

JANUARY SESSION, 1848.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Trenton, on Wednesday, January 12th, A. L. 5848, there were

PRESENT,

R. W. JOHN P. LEWIS, Grand Master, p. t.
R. W. DANIEL B. BRUEN, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOHN GARSIDE, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Grand Secretary.
R. W. ELIAS PHILLIPS, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. ISAAC H. HAMPTON, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
R. W. SAMUEL LENOX, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
Bro. WILLIAM B. GORDON, Grand Tyler.

Visitors—John Runk, William Wilson, and Thomas N. Sterritt, of Amwell Lodge, No. 12, U. D.; William Kennedy, Lott F. Miller, Joseph Tomkins, Jeremiah H. Lupton, of Brearley Lodge, No. 2; John Van Pelt, of Newark Lodge, No. 7.

LODGES REPRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

William S. Bowen, W. M., George Ayars, S. W., Brearley Lodge, No. 2.
George Vail, Cincinnati Lodge, No. 3.
William K. Mason, W. M., Tuckerton Lodge, No. 4.
Samuel B. Scattergood, S. W., Samuel Lenox, J. W., Trenton Lodge, No. 5.
William W. Croxon, W. M., Washington Lodge, No. 9.
Allen Osborne, S. W., Franklin Lodge, No. 10.

The minutes of the last annual and extra meetings were read and approved.

The committee to whom was referred the claim on Trenton Lodge, No. 5, not being present, it was on motion

Ordered, That two be appointed in the place of those who were absent.

Committee—George Vail and William K. Mason.

Past Grand Masters Daniel B. Bruen and William S. Bowen were appointed a Committee on the Treasurer's Accounts.

Tuckerton Lodge, No. 4, asked to be relieved from paying dues previous to the year 1847. It was so ordered.

The representatives of Amwell Lodge, No. 12, presented a petition, praying a warrant.

On motion *Ordered*, That a warrant issue to Amwell Lodge, No. 12.

The representatives of Brearley Lodge, No. 2, presented the following:

To the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey:

The petition of Brearley Lodge, No. 2, respectfully showeth, the warrant empowering said Lodge to work, has been lost or mislaid, and request the Grand Lodge of New Jersey to issue an order for a new warrant.

WILLIAM S. BOWEN, W. M.,
GEORGE AYARS, S. W.,
JEREMIAH H. LUPTON, J. W.

Bridgeton, Jan. 11, 1848.

It was *Ordered*, That the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

The Grand Master and Milton Baldwin, W. M. of Newark Lodge, No. 7, were announced and received in due form.

The Grand Lodge was then called off till 2 o'clock P. M.

TWO O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor, the Grand Master in the chair. Same officers as before.

The Grand Master presented the following address:

Another Masonic year has rolled away, and, through the kindness of an All-wise and Merciful Providence, we are once more permitted to assemble in Grand Annual Communication. Let us, with becoming humility, pour forth our gratitude to that Being whose watchful care is were extended to those who trust in Him, and let us fervently implore His presence and blessing on all our doings at this meeting; let us cheerfully and assiduously enter upon the discharge of those responsible duties with which we are charged, and, in all our deliberations, remember that we are Masons and members of the same great Masonic family; let us banish from our breasts any unhallowed passion which may mar the peace and harmony of the same. And, while we enjoy freely those ineffable bless

ings, it is our high privilege to rejoice in the fact, that our Divine Master, who cares for all our wants, is not only the God of Masons but of all men.

I am happy in being able to represent to you that the Fraternity under our jurisdiction is unusually flourishing and steadily advancing, both in numbers and respectability; yet I am sorry to add there are some discordant feelings still existing among some of the members of the Fraternity, and which, if permitted to exist, will not only mar the harmony of the Lodges, but jeopardize their existence.

The committee on certain charges preferred against Past Master Samuel Smith, at our last Annual Communication, I presume, will be prepared to make their report at this meeting.

I have granted several dispensations for making Masons, without the usual form of laying over one month, according to the Constitution.

I have also constituted and opened a new Lodge at Lambertville, named Amwell Lodge, No. 12, and installed A. St. John, Worshipful Master, William Wilson, Senior Warden, and T. R. Stout, Junior Warden. Said Lodge was instituted June 16th, 1847, and is now working under a dispensation, and is in a prosperous and flourishing condition. I would also recommend that a warrant be granted to the Amwell Lodge at this Communication.

I would also recommend an amendment to the Constitution, fixing the price of initiation fee of Subordinate Lodges for entering, passing and raising Masons; as the Constitution now is, one Lodge may charge one price, and another Lodge a different sum.

I would also recommend there be a standing committee appointed on correspondence, whose duty it shall be to examine all correspondence during the year and make their report at each Annual Communication, as the time usually allowed for examining said correspondence is entirely too short to do it that justice which the subject demands.

I have discontinued the dispensation of Essex County Lodge, empowering them to work for such reasons as, I presume, will receive your concurrence.

I cannot omit to call your attention to the 15th Article of General Regulations under this Grand Lodge, which requires said Lodges to give notice to such of its members as are in arrears eighteen months; and if said members who are so in arrears, after having received notice, shall neglect to forward within six months thereafter shall be expelled. I am sorry to say that this section of the Regulations has, in some instances, been overlooked, and in others wilfully omitted.

On the 14th day of September last, I received a communication from a committee of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New York, setting forth certain grievances alleged to have been committed by one of the Past Grand Masters of this Grand Lodge. Said communication sets forth that, on the 23d day of June last past, John S. Darcy, Past

Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, did, on said day, in the city of New York, grant his proxy, under his hand and seal, authorizing one Henry C. Atwood, an expelled Mason and pretended Deputy Grand Master of a clandestine Grand Lodge, to install into the office of Grand Master of said clandestine Grand Lodge, a man by the name of Anderson, and who was, by the authority of said proxy, so installed. This is an act, my brethren, not only in violation of the rights and privileges of the Grand Lodge and its officers in granting a proxy, but in granting it to a clandestine Mason; and to install a clandestine Lodge is a direct violation of all the principles and obligations of our institution, and if passed by with impunity will not only sap the foundation of Masonry in New Jersey, but will cast upon us a by-word and reproach which time itself cannot erase. I have no doubt you will take such action on the subject as its importance demands.

I cannot forego the present opportunity of offering my grateful acknowledgments to the Fraternity of New Jersey for the repeated marks of their kindness and confidence. I have often felt my own inadequacy to make suitable requital for these acts of kindness; the cup of my ambition is filled to overflowing, and I anticipate the pleasant duty of installing my successor, some brother of your choice, who will bring to the station more ability for the discharge of its various duties than has been allotted to me, and I shall greet with unfeigned satisfaction him who shall be honored by your preference.

That our deliberations may be blessed of Him whose watchful eye is ever penetrating our most secret actions, and that we all, after having faithfully performed our sacred duties in this Hall, may in health be welcomed to the bosom of our families, is my most sincere desire.

IRA MERCHANT, *G. Master.*

Milton Baldwin, W. M., E. Stewart, representaves from Newark Lodge, No. 7.

I. Harrison, W. M., representative from Union Lodge, No. 11.

Bro. B. McCormick, representative from Franklin Lodge, No. 10.

P. G. M. Charles Burroughs, representative from Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

The following petition was read:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey:

The undersigned, members of Clinton Lodge, No. 8, would respectfully petition your honorable body, that we have not met as a Lodge for some time, and, by the General Regulations, we are stricken off the list; we therefore pray that your honorable body will be pleased to let us resume our labors, and be properly placed upon said list of Lodges under this jurisdiction. We furthermore pray that permission be given us to remove our Lodge to the village of Peapack.

And your petitioners will ever pray, &c.

We respectfully propose Moses Craig, Worshipful Master, William Kennedy, Senior Warden, and Stephen Rush, Junior Warden.

MOSES CRAIG,
WILLIAM KENNEDY,
STEPHEN RUSH.

Ordered, That the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

On motion, a committee of three was appointed on the Grand Master's address—George Vail, William S. Bowen and Isaac H. Hampton.

Past Master Samuel B. Scattergood, on behalf of Trenton Lodge, No. 5, (after consultation with the committee of this Grand Lodge) made the following proposition for the cancellation of the bond and mortgage which the Grand Lodge holds on the building: "That said Lodge will give two hundred and fifty dollars, and give the Grand Lodge the free use of the room, and find them in light, fuel, &c., as long as said Trenton Lodge, No. 5, has existence as a Lodge."

On motion that the proposition be accepted, those Lodges voting in the affirmative were—

Cincinnati Lodge, No. 3			2	
Tuckerton	"	" 4	2	
Trenton	"	" 5	2	
Newark	"	" 7	2	
Clinton	"	" 8	2	
Washington	"	" 9	2	
Franklin	"	" 10	2	
Union	"	" 11	2	
Amwell	"	" 12	2	
	Total		18	
Negative—Brearley Lodge, No. 2			2	
				16

The members voting in the affirmative were, E. Stewart, J. Garside, C. Burroughs, D. B. Bruen, T. W. Sterritt,.....5
Negative—Isaac H. Hampton and George Ayars,.....2
— 3

Net majority. 19

The Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer were excused from voting.

Resolved, That the committee be requested to take from Trenton Lodge, No. 5, an instrument in writing, under seal and signature of the officers of the aforesaid Lodge, in reference to the use of the same by said Grand Lodge, and be filed in its archives.

The Committee on the Treasurer's Accounts reported a balance in his hands of $14.42, at commencement of the session.

The following resolutions were read and adopted:

Resolved, That it is recommended by this Grand Lodge to the Subordinate Lodges under its jurisdiction, that the anniversary of St. John the Baptist next ensuing be celebrated at Newark.

Resolved, That invitations to join said celebration be extended to the Grand Lodges of the States of New York and Pennsylvania, and the Subordinate Lodges of the city of New York, in good standing with said Grand Lodge, and that this invitation be extended to said Subordinate Lodges through the said Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary communicate to the Lodges throughout this State and to the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, the above resolutions, and also to the Grand Lodge and Subordinates of Pennsylvania through their Grand Lodge.

The following were appointed a committee on the foregoing resolutions: George Vail, Edward Stewart, John Garside, Ichabod Harrison, John R. Crockett and Ira Merchant.

The Chair appointed Past Grand Master Charles Burroughs, Elias Phillips and Joseph H. Hough a Committee on Correspondence for the past and present years.

The following bills were ordered to be paid:

Joseph H. Hough, salary, postage, &c.	$28 09
Phillips & Boswell	9 00
Mrs. Mershon, widow of John Mershon, late Grand Secretary	103 13
Newark Daily Advertiser	1 75
Sherman & Harron	1 47
William B. Gordon	2 00
Ira Merchant	29 00

It was *Ordered*, That the Grand Lodge hold its semi-annual meeting at Newark, on the 23d of June next, at 10 o'clock A. M.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to an election of officers for the ensuing year.

Past Master William Wilson, of No. 12, and Past Master Allen Osborne, of No. 10, were appointed tellers.

After an election, they reported the following as duly elected:

M. W. John P. Lewis, of Eatontown, Grand Master.
R. W. Edward Stewart, of Newark, Deputy Grand Master.
" " John Garside of Newark, Senior Grand Warden.
" " T. N. Sterritt, of Lambertville, Junior Grand Warden.
" " Joseph H. Hough, of Trenton, Grand Secretary.
" " George Vail, of Morristown, Deputy Grand Secretary.
" " Elias Phillips, of Trenton, Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Lodge was then called off till 7 o'clock P. M.

SEVEN O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was then called to labor. Officers as before.

The Grand Officers were installed in ample form.

The Grand Master made the following appointments:

W. Sam'l B. Scattergood, of Trenton, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. Wm. W. Croxon, of Eatontown, Junior Grand Deacon.
Rev. W. Harry Finch, of Eatontown, Grand Chaplain.
W. John R. Crockett, of Newark, Grand Marshal.
W. James Clark of Morristown, Grand Steward.
W. William Wilson, of Lambertville, Grand Steward.
Bro. Bartholomew West, of Newark, Grand Tyler.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That Most Worshipful Past Grand Master Ira Merchant be presented with a Past Grand Master's jewel, at the expense of this Grand Lodge.

The Chair appointed George Vail to procure it.

Ordered, That Past Grand Master Ira Merchant be requested to call on Bro. Herring to get the jewel and apron lately in the possession of Bro. Sylvester Spencer, deceased, our late representative in the Grand Lodge of New York.

Ordered, That Past Grand Master Ira Merchant be appointed to collect the jewels, &c., of all dormant Lodges in this State.

Ordered, That the Grand Treasurer be instructed to procure a Deputy Grand Secretary's badge and jewel.

The following resolution, passed November 11th, 1845, was unanimously rescinded:

"*Resolved*, That the appointment of Grand Representatives be discontinued in foreign Grand Lodges, and all communications, &c., be directed to the Grand Secretary."

Ordered, That Past Master Fitzgerald Tisdall be appointed our representative in the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

Past Grand Master Joseph Warren Scott was announced, and received in due form.

Resolved, That we acknowledge Bro. Past Master William Kerwood as representative of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

Resolved, That Past Grand Master Ira Merchant be requested to present the jewel and apron late in the possession of Bro. Spencer, to our representative, Fitzgerald Tisdall.

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to publish the celebration in papers printed in different parts of the State.

The minutes of this meeting were read and approved.

The Grand Lodge then closed in harmony, to meet on Friday, June 23d, 1848, at Newark, unless sooner convened by the proper authority.

JOS. H. HOUGH, *G. Secretary.*

Trenton, January 12th, 5848.

LIST, IN ORDER

OF ALL THE GRAND MASTERS. DEP. GRAND MASTERS, S. GRAND WARDENS, J. GRAND

YEAR.	GRAND MASTERS.	DEP. GRAND MASTERS.	GRAND S. WARDENS.
1786	David Brearley,	Robert Lettis Hooper,	William Leddle,
1787	"	"	"
1788	"	"	John Noble Cumming,
1789	"	"	"
1790	"	"	"
1791	John Beatty,	"	Samuel Witham Stockton,
1792	"	"	"
1793	Samuel W. Stockton,	John N. Cumming,	Aaron Dunham,
1794	"	"	"
1795	John Noble Cumming,	Joseph Bloomfield,	Joseph Read,
1797	"	"	"
1798	"	"	"
1799	Joseph Bloomfield,	Joseph Read,	William McKissack,
1800	"	"	"
1801	John Beatty,	"	"
1802	"	"	"
1803	"	Aaron D. Woodruff,	"
1804	"	"	"
1805	Aaron D. Woodruff,	William McKissack,	Thomas Bullman,
1806	"	"	"
1807	"	"	"
1808	"	"	"
1809	"	"	"
1810	"	"	"
1811	"	"	"
1812	"	"	"
1813	"	"	"
1814	"	"	"
1815	"	"	Franklin Davenport,
1816	"	"	"
1817	James Giles,	"	Jeptha B. Munn,
1818	"	"	"
1819	"	"	"
1820	Jeptha B. Munn,	Samuel J. Read,	Hedge Thompson,
1821	"	"	"
1822	"	"	"
1823	"	"	"
1824	Samuel J. Read,	John L. Darcy,	"
1825	"	"	"
1826	John L. Darcy,	Hedge Thompson,	Isaac H: Hampton,
1827	"	"	"
1828	Isaac H. Hampton,	Andrew Parsons,	Thomas L. Woodruff,
1829	"	Joseph W. Scott,	"
1830	Joseph Warren Scott,	Thomas L. Woodruff,	William Scott,
1831	"	"	William Gray,
1832	"	Elias Van Arsdale, jun.,	John Allen,
1833	"	"	Imlah Drake,
1834	Elias Van Arsdale, jun.,	Charles Burroughs,	William Kerwood,
1835	"	"	"
1836	Charles Burroughs,	William S. Bowen,	Abner Parke,
1837	"	"	Daniel B. Bruen,
1838	"	"	"
1839	William S Bowen,	Daniel B. Bruen,	Henry A. Ford,
1840	"	"	Abner Parke,
1841	Daniel B. Bruen.	Abner Parke,	William H. Earl,
1842	"	"	"
1843	"	William H. Earl,	John P. Lewis,
1844	William H. Earl,	Ira Merchant,	"
1845	Ira Merchant,	John P. Lewis,	James Clark,
1846	"	"	John R. Crockett,
1848*	John P. Lewis,	Edward Stewart,	John Garside,

* Annual meeting changed from second Tuesday in November to second Wednesday in January.

OF SENIORITY,

WARDENS, GRAND SECRETARIES, DEP. GRAND SECRETARIES AND GRAND TREASURERS.

J. GRAND WARDENS.	GR'D SECRETARIES.	DEP. G. SECRETARIES.	GR'D TREASURERS.
Daniel Marsh,	John N. Cumming,	Maskell Ewing, jun.,	Joshua Corshon,
John Taylor,	"	"	Archibald Mercer.
John Beatty,	Maskell Ewing,	"	"
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	Aaron Dunham.
Jonathan Read,	"	"	"
Elisha Lawrence,	"	William Tindall,	Joseph Read.
Joseph Read,	"	Gershom Craft,	Pontius D. Stelle.
"	"	"	"
Israel Hedden, jun.,	Jacob Benjamin,	William Tindall,	"
"	"	"	"
"	"	Elisha Clark,	Maskell Ewing,
Thomas Anderson,	"	"	"
"	"	Samuel J. Read,	"
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
Franklin Davenport.	"	George McDonald,	Jonathan Rhea.
"	Samuel J. Read,	"	"
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
"	Andrew S. Hunter,	"	"
"	"	"	"
"	Richard L. Beatty,	"	Isaac Barnes, jun.
James Giles,	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
Franklin Davenport.	"	"	Thos. L. Woodruff.
Hedge Thompson.	"	"	"
Samuel J. Read,	"	John L. Darcy,	"
Isaac Andruss,	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
John L. Darcy,	"	Zachariah Rossell,	"
"	"	John Scott,	"
John Scott,	"	Andrew Parsons,	"
"	Zachariah Rossell,	John E. Jeffers,	"
Andrew Parsons,	"	"	"
"	"	John C. Chambers,	"
George Green,	John C. Chambers,	George P. Glentworth,	Charles M. Wells.
William Scott,	"	"	"
William Gray,	Elias Vanarsdale, jr.,	Philemon Dickerson,	Charles Burroughs.
Elias Vanarsdale, jr.,	John Mershon,	"	"
William Kerwood,	"	"	"
"	"	Daniel Hutchinson,	"
Jazer Sickler,	"	"	X. J. Maynard.
Jesse Price,	"	"	"
George Vail,	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
"	"	Joseph H. Hough,	"
Abner Parke,	"	"	"
William H. Earl,	"	"	"
Jeremiah B. Davis,	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
Bartholomew West,	Joseph H. Hough,	John J. Frisbee,	Elias Phillips.
Allen Osborne,	"	Staats S. Morris,	"
"	"	"	"
John Garside,	"	Daniel B. Bruen,	"
Thomas N. Sterritt,	"	George Vail,	"

Elias Phillips, in account with the Grand Lodge of New Jersey:

1848.

Balance		$14 42
Trenton Lodge, No. 5		18 50
Brearley " " 2		17 00
Cincinnati " " 3		30 00
Tuckerton " " 4		11 00
Newark " " 7		22 50
Washington " " 9		16 00
Franklin " " 10		6 50
Union " " 11		17 50
" " " " dispensation		4 00
Warrant to Amwell Lodge, No. 12		25 00
Cash from Trenton Lodge, No. 5		250 00
		$432 42
Paid out to Ira Merchant, Grand Master	$29 00	
Sherman & Harron, bill	2 33	
William B. Gordon, Tyler	2 00	
Phillips & Boswell, printing	9 00	
J. H. Hough, Grand Secretary	28 09	
Balance due Eliza D. Mershon	103 13	
Sherman & Harron, (May meeting)	1 47	
Newark Daily	1 75	
		176 77
Cash on hand		$255 65

ADJOURNED SESSION, 1848.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey met at Newark, June 23d, A. L. 5848, in the Hall of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, pursuant to resolution of last meeting, at which were

PRESENT,

M. W. JOHN P. LEWIS, Grand Master.
R. W. EDWARD STEWART, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN GARSIDE, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. THOMAS A. STERRITT, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. MILTON BALDWIN, Grand Secretary, p. t.
R. W. ELIAS PHILLIPS, Grand Treasurer.
W. WILLIAM W. CROXON, Junior Grand Deacon.
BRO. WILLIAM GODBER, Grand Tyler, p. t.
BRETHREN P. G. M's DANIEL BRUEN and IRA MERCHANT.
WILLIAM KERWOOD, Representative of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

VISITORS.—Luther Goble, John R. Crockett, Joseph Munn, Isaac P. Brown, John Runk, Ichabod Harrison, J. M. Condit, Samuel Smith, Thomas Young, Jeremiah Jaggers, R. Laird, Samuel Read, John W. Hankins, Jacob Alyea, Richard Swayze, Henry D. Hedden, George Hall, James Bird, J. H. Woodruff, Simon Searing, Michael Fredericks and Elias Ogden.

LODGES REPRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

Milton Baldwin, W. M., Newark Lodge, No. 7.
John P. Lewis, Washington Shrewsbury Lodge, No. 9.
Jeremiah Jaggers, W. M., Franklin Lodge, No. 10.
Ichabod Harrison, W. M., J. M. Condit, S. W., Union Lodge, No. 11.

The Grand Lodge was opened in the third degree of Masonry, in due and ancient form.

The Committee on Correspondence was called, but made no report.

The Committee on Celebration, Bro. Garside, reported that nothing had been done, from the neglect of the chairman to call the committee together; whereupon it was

Resolved, That the committee be discharged.

A motion to have the names of the committee erased from the minutes of the last meeting, was lost.

At the request of Past Grand Master Ira Merchant, on motion, his name was ordered to be stricken from the records of the January meeting, as a member of the Committee on Celebration.

The committee to collect the jewels of dormant Lodges, reported that, on account of not having official authority of his appointment for such purpose, he had been unable, as yet, to make much progress, but would probably be able to make a full report at the Annual Communication.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment.

TWO O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor, Deputy Grand Master Edward Stewart in the chair.

The committee on the charges against Past Master Samuel Smith made no report. On motion, the committee were discharged and the charges dismissed.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence made no report. Grand Treasurer Phillips declined serving on said committee, and the Chair appointed Bro. Samuel Mairs to fill the vacancy.

The committee on the communication from the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, respecting Past Grand Master John S. Darcy, was, on motion, discharged.

Past Grand Master Bruen offered the following:

Resolved, That all matters relating to a communication from the Grand Lodge of the State of New York concerning Past Grand Master John S. Darcy, be dismissed until the subject is properly brought before this Grand Lodge by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

Said resolution was decided in the negative.

On motion, the subject was referred to a new committee.

Ichabod Harrison, Ira Merchant and Milton Baldwin were appointed as such committee.

Past Grand Master Ira Merchant offered the following:

Resolved, That no Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall be permitted to enter, pass and raise to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, any person (clergymen excepted) for a less sum than sixteen dollars.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to St. John's Lodge, No. 1, for the use of their Hall on this occasion.

Resolved, That St. John's Lodge be requested to pay their Tyler the sum of two dollars for his services this day, and present their voucher to the Grand Treasurer for payment.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in due and ancient form. MILTON BALDWIN, *Secretary, p. t.*

JANUARY SESSION, 1849.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Trenton, on Wednesday, the 10th day of January, A. L. 5849, there were

PRESENT,

M. W. JOHN P. LEWIS, Grand Master.
R. W. EDWARD STEWART, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN GARSIDE, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. THOMAS A. STERRITT, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Grand Secretary.
R. W. ELIAS PHILLIPS, Grand Treasurer.
Rev. W. HARRY FINCH, Grand Chaplain.
W. SAMUEL B. SCATTERGOOD, Senior G. Deacon.
W. JACOB IRELAND, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
Bro. WILLIAM B. GORDON, Grand Tyler, p. t.
R. W. WILLIAM KERWOOD, Representative of the Grand Lodge of New York.
R. W. FITZGERALD TISDALL, Representative of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey in the Grand Lodge of New York.
P. G. M. DANIEL B. BRUEN.

VISITORS.—Sylvester Vansickel, Samuel Read, James R. Scott and Samuel Kay.

LODGES REPRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

Jacob Ireland, W. M., Tuckerton Lodge, No. 4.

S. B. Scattergood, S. W., Samuel Lenox, J. W., Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

Harry Finch, W. M., Washington Lodge, No. 9.

Jeremiah Jaggers, W. M., Franklin Lodge, No. 10.

Ephraim Marsh, S. W., Warren Lodge, U. D.

The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form. The Throne of Grace was addressed by the Grand Chaplain.

The minutes of the semi-annual session at Newark, in June last, were read.

Past Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen objected to the approval of that portion which related to the charges against Past Master Samuel Smith.

On motion, they were laid on the table for the present.

On motion, Past Grand Master D. B. Bruen was permitted to lay the subject before the Grand Lodge.

Past Grand Master Joseph Warren Scott was received in due form.

Past Master B. West, of No. 7, Isaac P. Brown, of No. 1, and William B. Williams, of No. 11, were received.

They represented as follows:

Isaac P. Brown, W. M., St. John's Lodge, No. 1.

William B. Williams, S. W., Union Lodge, No. 11.

Bro. Imla Drake, of Lebanon Lodge, No. 6, received.

On motion, a new committee be raised on the charges brought by Past Grand Master D. B. Bruen. After some debate the subject was laid over till afternoon.

Past Master Philip Kingsley, of No. 11, and Edward T. Hilyer, of No. 7, received.

The Grand Master appointed Past Masters William Kerwood, Edward T. Hillyer and Jacob Ireland a committee to examine the accounts of the Grand Treasurer.

The Worshipful Grand Master read the following address, which was received:

The Masonic occurrences which have come under my observation since our last Grand Communication, I beg leave to report, as follows:

By invitation, I visited Newark Lodge, No. 7, on the 22d of June last, and, with the assistance of Deputy Grand Master Brother Stewart, Senior Grand Warden Brother John Garside, Junior Grand Warden Brother Thomas A. Sterritt, Past Grand Masters Brothers Daniel B. Bruen and Ira Merchant, and a number of the brethren of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, and Washington Lodge, No. 9, did dedicate their new Lodge Hall in ancient form.

It affords me great pleasure to state that the utmost good feeling and harmony prevailed upon the occasion. The gentlemanly conduct of the officers and brethren of that Lodge was such as to inspire me with the highest regard for them. Their room is elegantly and appropriately fitted up; and, from what I observed of their work, I am impressed with the belief that it is not surpassed by any Lodge in the State.

On the following day I attended the semi-annual meeting of the Grand Lodge at that place, the proceedings of which the members of this Grand Lodge, who were not then present, will now learn from the minutes.

Being myself a member of Washington Shrewsbury Lodge, No. 9, and thereby having an acquaintance with its affairs, I have the satisfaction to inform the Grand Lodge that this Lodge continues to improve in the acquisition of valuable members, and that nothing has transpired among its members to disturb that harmony and good feeling so essentially necessary to the prosperity of the Fraternity.

My professional business, since our last Grand Communication, has been of such a nature as prevent my visiting the Subordinate Lodges; but, as far as I have been able to ascertain their condition by inquiry, I have the gratification, at this time. to announce that they are in a prosperous condition.

The dangerous and violent excitements enkindled by the influence of designing men, to enable them "to ride upon the whirlwind and direct the storm," have happily passed away with the occasion; and Masonry, notwithstanding the severe shock it has sustained by their infuriate exertions, still stands as firm as a rock. It is founded upon truth, *veritas est magna et frevalabit.*

Brothers James W. Harvey, Uzal O. Swayze, James Brown, and eleven others, Master Masons, presented a petition to me, setting forth a desire to resuscitate Warren Lodge, No. 52, which had remained dormant for several years. I granted them a dispensation to resume their labors, and requested Deputy Grand Master Brother Edward Stewart to install their officers, and set them to work.

A communication from the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana was forwarded to me, setting forth that seven Lodges under their jurisdiction had become recreant, and obtained from the Grand Lodge of Mississippi authority to proceed with their work; and that they had expelled the members of said seceded Lodges for unmasonic conduct. Their communication states that the Grand Lodges of New York, Kentucky and the representative of the Grand Orient of France, had disapproved of the conduct of the perpetrators of this insubordination, and ordered that these rebellious Masons, as well as the members of those unlawful Lodges, should not be admitted into the Lodges of their jurisdiction. I have also received the constitution and proceedings from a Grand Lodge, denominated the Louisiana Grand Lodge, made up from the expelled members of the old Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, the Grand Officers of which were installed on the 8th of March, last passed, by a Brother James R. Hartsock, a Past Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Iowa.

The new Grand Lodge complains that the old Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, originally a regular body of Ancient York Masons, has forfeited all claim to allegiance with regular Ancient York Masons, by granting warrants authorizing Lodges to work according to the "Scotch Rite" and the *modern*, or "*French Rite*." In looking into the matter, I can see no good reason why the Scotch degrees should not be recognized and conferred, so long as they are only an addition, and not in any way designed or permitted to interfere with the work of Ancient York Masons; and it appears to me the reasons given by the new Grand Lodge for their separation, are founded upon the addition of degrees, especially the Scotch. This does not appear to have interrupted the harmony of Lodges in Europe, and why should it here?

There evidently appears to be something unmasonic, schismatical, and unbrotherly in the spirit and proceedings of this new Grand Lodge, which I think must eventually work its destruction.

The old Grand Lodge appears to be established on true Masonic principles and catholicity, aiming to embrace the whole work of the Fraternity in every degree in the known world; which appears to be the only ground of objection made to it by the new Grand Lodge. It strikes me that this should be a ground of approval and commendation, and not objection. The subordinate objections, arising out of this, show more a spirit of envy and jealousy, than of just and Masonic cause of injury and complaint, and rather weakens their grounds for separation than otherwise.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN P. LEWIS, *G. Master.*

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence made the following report, which was, on motion, accepted:

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, appointed at the last annual meeting to report on the two past years, (1846 and 1847) beg leave to report—

That we have examined the printed extracts of proceedings from the several Grand Lodges, as follows: Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Maryland, Virginia, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Florida, Tennessee, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa and Wisconsin; also, from several Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, the printed extracts of their proceedings; also, an "Eulogium on the Masonic Life and Character of Robinson R. Moore, Past Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania," by Joseph R. Chandler, Past Grand Master; also, the printed proceedings of the Convention to form a Supreme Grand Lodge for the United States.

The printed communications from the several Grand Lodges in correspondence with this, for the year ending this Grand Annual Communication, have been received from the following: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, two Grand Lodges of Louisiana, Texas, Florida, Kentucky, Indiana, Missouri, Iowa, Wisconsin, and the proceedings of the Provincial Grand Lodges of Canada East and West.

The committee have examined the correspondence for the previous year, and would congratulate the Grand Lodge on the prosperous condition of the several Grand Lodges in correspondence with this; the Fraternity is making rapid strides every where, which is truly gratifying.

We do not deem it necessary to go into detail of the proceedings of the Grand Lodges individually, and see nothing, save one exception, that we deem of sufficient importance to call your attention. In reference to the difficulties existing between the Grand Lodges of Mississippi and Louisiana, your committee beg leave to quote part of the able report on that subject, from the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the State of Kentucky, as follows:

"The Grand Lodge of Louisiana was established in 1812, as a York Grand Lodge, and, as such, was incorporated by the legislature of that State. At and before the time of her establishing herself, there were Lodges existing in Louisiana, chartered by the Grand Orient of France, who also chartered Lodges in Louisiana after the formation of the York Grand Lodge, in 1812.

"We have no evidence that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana ever protested against this action of the Grand Orient of France, or that she con-

sidered the establishment of Lodges of 'Scotch' and 'Modern' rites, as a trespass upon her prerogative as a Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons, or that she ever paid any attention to 'Scotch' and 'Modern' rites until 1833, twenty-one years after her establishment as a Grand Lodge. At this period is the first evidence given of her recognition of a body of Masons not under her authority, though existing within her limits; and the recognition consists of a '*concordate*,' or agreement, made and entered into by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana with a Grand Consistory of the Sovereign Princes of the Royal Section, 32d Degree, by which the Grand Lodge of Louisiana 'solemnly recognizes the Supreme Council of the Sov. G. Inspector Gen. 33d and last degree,' as the sole Legislature of the Philosophical Scotch Masonry in the United States of America. This is the first consideration given by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana; the next is, that she will 'circulate under its authority,' or amalgamate Scotch and Modern Lodges with Ancient York Masons, and give them authority and votes in a Grand Lodge of Masons. The next stipulation is, that she will constitute and create Lodges of Scotch and Modern rites; and since 1833 she has complied with these stipulations. It appears that some of the Grand Lodges of Mississippi received evidence that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana had so far departed from the landmarks of Masonry, as to forfeit all right to control Ancient Masonry, and issued a dispensation for a Subordinate Lodge in the State; that afterwards, entertaining the belief that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana would retrace her steps, she withdrew that dispensation. Louisiana persisting in her course, the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, a few years since, appointed a committee, who went to New Orleans for the purpose of learning the condition of our institution there; and at the Grand Annual Communication of 1847, the Grand Lodge of Mississippi declared, by resolution, 'that there was no Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons in Louisiana,' and did issue dispensations for Louisiana. The Grand Lodge of Louisiana has interdicted Masonic communication between the Masons of the first three degrees of that State and the members of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, as also all collections of persons assuming to hold Lodges not chartered by Louisiana, and the same against any other Grand Lodge who may arrogate the right of dispensation or charter; and the persons composing a Lodge formed, or that may hereafter attempt to form under such authority, are, by resolution of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, 'ejected from the pale of Masonry, expelled from the regular Lodges, and for ever deprived of their Masonic titles,' &c.

"The Grand Lodge of New York resolved that they have heretofore recognized the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and 'shall continue to sustain her in all her rights and prerogatives as such.' The Grand Lodge of Missouri, after a full investigation, reported a resolution, 'that all Masonic

intercourse is hereby withheld from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana and her dependant Lodges, until said Grand Lodge shall return to the plain and simple principles upon which it was originally established.' "

Your committee would decline giving or suggesting any course to pursue in the matter, but would leave the Grand Lodge to determine.

JOSEPH H. HOUGH.
SAMUEL MAIRS.

Trenton, January 10th, 1849.

Bro. John A. Morford, of No. 9, was received.

On motion, the Grand Master's address and the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence were referred to Past Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen, Past Masters Philip Kingsley and Thomas A. Sterritt.

The following preamble and resolution were, on motion, adopted:

Whereas, The papers of this Grand Lodge have, by repeated reference to them, become loose and out of order, and are in such a situation as to make it very difficult to find a certain paper without loss of time—therefore,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be requested to class and file all papers, in such a manner as to him shall seem best.

Milton Baldwin, Worshipful Master of Newark Lodge, No. 7, was received.

The following proposition to alter Sec. 15, General Regulations, as follows: Strike out the word "eighteen," in fourth line, and insert "twelve;" strike out "six," in fifth line, and insert "three;" and strike out "Treasurer" and insert "Secretary," in sixth line; also, strike out in last line, the words "shall" and "expelled," and insert the words "may" and "suspended." Laid over till next annual meeting.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That all Lodges under this jurisdiction be required to carry out the amended resolution, under penalty of censure.

The following preamble and resolutions were read and received:

Whereas, Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge have, contrary to the true intent and meaning of the 15th section of the Grand Regulations of this Grand Lodge, created and made a class of privileged

members, called honorary members, and remitted their dues of long standing, thereby defrauding the charities of the Fraternity, and doth continue them as active members of their Lodge or Lodges, with all the rights and privileges as members who are aiding the Masonic charity fund by the payment of their dues—therefore,

Resolved, That any Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, who has the name of a member or members standing on its books as an honorary member or members, that such Lodge or Lodges shall make a return to this Grand Lodge of the name of such member or members, with the reason why he or they have been granted such exclusive privileges.

Resolved, That each Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall, at its Annual Communication, furnish a list of the names of all its members who are in arrears for dues, with the amount due, and when the last dues were paid; and also of all members whose dues have been remitted, at what time, when the last dues were paid, what amount has been remitted, and the reasons why.

Resolved, That any member or members of any Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, whose names stand on the books of their Lodge as non-paying honorary members, shall not be eligible to any office in said Lodge, nor be entitled to be a representative in this Grand Lodge, or to have a vote in the same.

Resolved, That no Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge shall have a right to remit the dues of any member, without first laying the matter before this Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was then called off till 2 o'clock P. M., from labor to refreshment.

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2 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor. Officers and members same as before.

The committee to whom was referred the Treasurer's Accounts reported verbally that they had examined his accounts, vouchers, &c., find every thing correct, and report a balance in his hands of $509.65.

On motion, the report was received and the committee discharged.

The preamble and resolutions offered and received just before the calling off to refreshment in the forenoon, were called up and again read.

Bro's Andrew Ribble, of Warren Lodge, No. —, U. D., James T. Higbee, of Mount Zion Lodge, No. 1, Detroit, Michigan, and Joseph Tompkins, were received.

The preamble was read.

A motion to strike out the preamble was agreed to.

The first resolution was read, and, on motion, agreed to.

The second, third and fourth were severally read, and not agreed to.

The committee to whom was referred the address of the Grand Master and Committee on Foreign Correspondence, reported as follows, viz.:

The committee to whom was referred the Annual Address of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, beg leave to report—

That they have examined the same, and find nothing that specially requires the attention of the Grand Lodge at this time, except the matter in relation to the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana and the Louisiana Grand Lodge; which matters require a particular examination of the actions of the several Grand Lodges, as well as the matters in the proceedings of the Grand Lodges referred to; which matter they respectfully refer to the committee to whom may be referred the Foreign Correspondence, to be reported at our next annual meeting. Also the dispensation granted by the Most Worshipful Grand Master to James W. Harvey and others, to resuscitate Warren Lodge, your committee recommend that a warrant be granted, and they take No. 13.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence contains no matters requiring the attention of the Grand Lodge, other than the matters referred to in the Most Worshipful Grand Master's address.

All which is respectfully submitted.

DANIEL B. BRUEN, *Chairman.*

Trenton, January 10th, 5849.

The minutes of the meeting of this Grand Lodge at Newark, June 23d last, were called up, read and approved.

On motion *Ordered,* That the committee appointed at the last meeting on the resolution offered by Past Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen, be granted further time to report.

The following memorial from Tuckerton Lodge, No. 4, was read, and, on motion, received:

On motion of Tuckerton Lodge, No. 4, it was unanimously carried, that the following memorial, signed by the officers, be sent to the Grand Lodge:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey:

Tuckerton Lodge, No. 4, is situated on the Atlantic shore, about sixty miles from the city of Trenton. It has been constituted ever since 1820, and during that time we have never been gratified with a visit from our Grand Master or Grand Officers. We recollect the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge make it a duty on them to visit every Subordinate Lodge in the State, at least once in every year. Our present Most Worshipful and beloved Grand Master Lewis was on the point of visiting us on the 11th ultimo, but was prevented on account of the sickness of his son. We hope the Grand Lodge will take some action with respect to visiting the Lodges it makes. The Lodges feel in better spirits to be taken some notice of and it looks better to the world. The situation of our Lodge makes it absolutely necessary that they should be visited soon, in order to confer the Past Master's degree on some of the brethren, as there is now only the one belonging to the Lodge (William K. Mason, Worshipful Master); and we do sincerely hope that there may be more visiting among the Fraternity belonging to the several Lodges of this State. We likewise hope that the Grand Lodge will not raise the initiation fee to more than ten dollars; if it does, it will injure this Lodge very much, and the Lodges throughout the State.

Yours, fraternally,

WILLIAM K. MASON, W. M.,
M. S. MATHIS, S. W.,
NATHANIEL COWPERTHWAIT, J. W.

Attest:

CHARLES MATHIS, *Sec'y.*

Tuckerton Lodge, No. 4, January 6th, 1849.

The Deputy Grand Master made the following report:

The undersigned would respectfully report the following, viz.:

In June last I visited Clinton Lodge, No. 8, at Peapack, Somerset county. They had permission to move their Lodge from Clinton to Peapack, which was done. I installed the officers in their respective stations and granted them a dispensation to make a member, by conferring the three degrees at the same time. I have also visited several of the Subordinate Lodges, and find they are in a prosperous condition.

Fraternally submitted.

EDWARD STEWART, D. G. M.

Trenton, January 10th, 1849.

A petition from Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18, to be reorganized and go to work, was read, and referred to the Grand Master.

Bro. Imla Drake made a statement of the position of Lebanon Lodge, No. 6, they having done no work, nor been represented since 5842; the matter was referred to the Grand Master.

It was on motion *Ordered*, That a warrant issue to Warren Lodge, No. 13, provided they are unable to find their old one.

The following bills were ordered paid, viz.:

Phillips & Boswell, for printing	$71 65
Edward Stewart, (expenses to No. 8,)	4 00
Newark Daily Advertiser	5 50
Grand Secretary	43 12
William B. Gordon, Grand Tyler	2 00

It was on motion *Ordered*, That the sum of thirty dollars be granted to the Grand Secretary for services the past year, and that his annual salary be hereafter fifty dollars.

The Grand Lodge was called off for a few minutes to make nominations for officers to serve the coming year.

The call was made to labor again, and the Chair appointed Past Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen judge, and Past Master B. West teller.

After an election being held they reported the following as being duly elected:

M. W. John P. Lewis, of No. 9, Eatontown, Grand Master.

R. W. Edward Stewart, of No. 7, Newark, Deputy Grand Master.

R. W. Thomas A. Sterritt, of No. 12, Lambertville, Senior Grand Warden.

R. W. Jacob Ireland, of No. 4, Tuckerton, Junior Grand Warden.

R. W. Joseph H. Hough, of No. 5, Trenton, Grand Secretary.

R. W. Milton Baldwin, of No. 7, Newark, Deputy Grand Secretary.

R. W. Elias Phillips, of No. 5, Trenton, Grand Treasurer.

They were installed in due form.

The Grand Master made the following appointments:

Rev. Harry Finch, of No. 9, Eatontown, Grand Chaplain.

W. S. B. Scattergood, of No. 5, Trenton, Senior Grand Deacon.

W. Jeremiah Jaggers, of No. 10, Clinton, Junior Grand Deacon.

W. B. West, of No. 7, Newark, Grand Tyler.

Past Master Isaac P. Brown, of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, offered the following, viz.:

Article 1, Section 1, By-Laws, to insert, after the word "held," in second line, "alternately;" and also, after the word "Trenton," the words "and Newark."

Resolved, That appointing Grand Representatives to other Grand Lodges be discontinued.

They were laid over till the annual meeting.

It was on motion *Ordered*, That we adjourn to meet at the city of Newark on the second Monday evening in May next.

It was on motion *Ordered*, That the sum of ten dollars be appropriated to defray the expenses of the Grand Chaplain.

It was on motion *Ordered*, That Past Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen be presented with a jewel suitable to his rank and station, in connection with Past Grand Master Ira Merchant.

On motion, said jewels not to exceed $25 each.

On motion, the committee have authority to draw on the Grand Treasurer for the same.

The Chair appointed Past Master Bartholomew West said committee.

The minutes of this Grand Annual Communication were read, approved and ordered to be printed.

The Grand Lodge then closed in harmony, to meet in the city of Newark, on Monday evening, March 14th, unless convened by the proper authority.

JOS. H. HOUGH, *G. Secretary.*

Elias Phillips, Grand Treasurer, in account with the Grand Lodge of New Jersey:

1849.

Cash on hand at last settlement			$255 65
St. John's Lodge, No. 1, for two years	$57 00		
Tuckerton, " 4, "	13 50		
Trenton, " 5, "	13 00		
Newark, " 7, "	20 50		
Washington, " 9, "	18 00		
Franklin, " 10, "	7 00		
Union, " 11, "	25 00		
Amwell, " 12, "	11 00		
		165 00	
			$420 65

Cash paid out as follows, viz.:

Edward Stewart		$14 00	
Grand Chaplain		10 00	
William B. Gordon		2 00	
Phillips & Boswell		71 65	
William Godber, (Tyler at Newark),		2 00	
Newark Daily Advertiser		5 50	
Joseph H. Hough, salary	$50 00		
Blank books, paper, &c	5 00		
Postage and box rent	8 47		
Sherman & Harron, advertising	7 75		
J. M. Newell "	2 00		
		73 12	
			168 27
Cash on hand			$252 38

ADJOURNED SESSION, 1849.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey met at the Hall of Newark Lodge, No. 7, at 8 o'clock Monday evening, pursuant to resolution of last meeting, at which were

PRESENT,

M. W. EDWARD STEWART, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. THOMAS A. STERRITT, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. EPHRAIM CAMP, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. MILTON BALDWIN, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. ELIAS PHILLIPS, Grand Treasurer.
W. ALEXANDER DICKERSON, Grand Chaplain, p. t.
W. JOHN CLARK, Jun., Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
W. ELIAS R. OGDEN, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
Bro. BARTHOLOMEW WEST. Grand Tyler.

Visitors.—P. G. M. Ira Merchant, Bros. Luther Goble, Isaac P. Brown, Edward T. Hillyer, Thomas Belcher, Sears Roberts, Harvey Park, Simon Searing, James L. Clark, E. W. Lemon, William Godber, Henry Whitenack, William S. Tay, James J. Terhune, and Ephraim Overbaugh.

LODGES REPRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

John Bell, S. W., St. John's Lodge, No. 1.
Jeremiah Jaggers, S. W., Franklin Lodge, No. 10.
William B. Williams, S. W., Union Lodge, No. 11.
Ephraim Camp, S. W., Warren Lodge, No. 13.

The Grand Lodge was opened in due and ancient form.

The Throne of Grace was addressed by the Grand Chaplain.

Bro. E. T. Hillyer stated that he did not appear as a representative of his Lodge; he therefore wished to know what were his privileges? The Deputy Grand Master gave the following decision:

"That a Warden of a Subordinate Lodge not appearing as a representative of his Lodge, is not entitled to a vote in the Grand Lodge."

An appeal from the decision was made, which after some consideration was laid over till the morning session.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment.

TUESDAY, 9 O'CLOCK A. M.

Deputy Grand Master in the chair—no quorum present.

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2 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

The Deputy Grand Master presiding—officers as before.

Brothers Samuel Smith, John Garside, and William T. Leacock, of Kentucky, were received.

Bro. John W. Mickle, having presented his commission as proxy, was received as representative from Camden Lodge, U. D.

Right Worshipful Fitzgerald Tisdall, representative of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey in the Grand Lodge of New York, was received.

A communication from the Grand Master of Kentucky, recommending the Rev. Wm. T. Leacock, the President of the Orphan Masonic College of Kentucky, as a worthy brother, and asking aid in behalf of said institution, was received, and referred to a committee of three, viz.: Milton Baldwin, Ira Merchant, and Luther Goble, to be reported upon immediately.

The following report was made:

"The committee would recommend that this Grand Lodge appropriate the sum of fifty dollars to this institution.

"That the Grand Secretary be instructed to send a copy of the following circular to the several Subordinate Lodges in this State."

On motion the report was received and adopted.

BRETHREN:—Our brother, the Rev. W. T. Leacock, President of our Orphan Masonic College in Kentucky, is on an embassy from the brethren in Kentucky to the brethren of the United States, soliciting contributions for the purpose of endowing that institution, and placing it upon a more permanent, extensive, and efficient basis; and we are able, from the documents he has exhibited, to recommend him to you as a brother in whose statements implicit confidence may be reposed. We would ask also, for the institution itself, alike so useful and creditable to the Fraternity, your warmest and most liberal support.

The institution is confined, in its charity, to the destitute orphans of Master Masons. It takes the orphan, of any age and from any State in the Union—carries him through a regular course of collegiate studies—compels him, during his progress through that course, to learn some mechanical trade, and requires him after he has graduated, to teach in the public schools of Kentucky for a year or two, that he may be provided with the means of maintaining himself immediately on his leaving college. If the orphan is by any means incapacitated for teaching, he is retained at college till a situation suited to his capacity can be provided. Thus this institution not only gratuitously feeds, and clothes, and educates the orphan, but it never leaves him till it has placed him in a condition to make his bread.

The institution is under the control of the Grand Lodge, and is confined to no particular religious denomination.

Such is the institution. Now let no brother feel himself too poor to give to this institution. It is intended for our poor, and our poverty is therefore the strongest reason for giving.

Let no rich brother neglect to give to this institution. It is the asylum of the orphan, the orphan of our destitute brother, our own peculiar charge.

Let us all, brethren, aid this institution to the extent of our ability: if we have but little, let us give of that little, and let none of us refuse to give because what we are able to give we may think to little to give. Any amount will be thankfully received.

Your contributions you will please send to our Brother Elias Phillips, Grand Treasurer, Trenton, New Jersey, who will remit it to the brethren in Kentucky, and send you their receipt.

On motion that Pruden Alling be restored to his former Masonic standing in this Grand Lodge, the subject matter of the resolution was referred to a committee consisting of Bros. T. A. Sterritt, Alexander Dickerson, and Ichabod Harrison, with instruction to report at the next Annual Communication.

Bro. Luther Goble read an extract on Masonic duty from the Boston Masonic Magazine, and desired to call the attention of the brethren to the excellent precepts it contained.

A communication asking aid for Sarah White, an orphan of Bro. John White, deceased, of Trenton, New Jersey, was received, and an appropriation of $15 was made.

On motion, the sum of $15 was appropriated for the relief of the widow of Bro. Thomas Mandeville, deceased, of St. John's Lodge.

On motion also, the same amount was granted to the widow of Bro. Terry, of St. John's Lodge, No. 1.

The following circular from St. John's Lodge, No. 1, was received:

"*To the Officers and Members of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Jersey:*

"Whereas, finding that some of the members of this Lodge having applied, as visitors, for admission into one or more of the Subordinate Lodges in the State of New York, and have been denied both examination and admission into said Lodges, they not having a Grand Lodge certificate, the Grand Lodge of New Jersey not recognizing the 'certificate system;' therefore, be it

"*Resolved*, That this Lodge instruct the Secretary to communicate with all the Grand Lodges in the United States, and the Subordinate Lodges of New York, asking them for an expression of the several Lodges on the case in question, and request a copy of such expression sent to this Lodge.

"*Resolved*, That if the Subordinate Lodges shall continue to support the certificate system, and the Grand Lodges continue to deny our admission into their Lodges (which we consider an invasion of our rights as members of the Masonic Fraternity) that we, as a Lodge, shall feel compelled, with our views of the landmarks of the Fraternity, to deny the admission of all hailing from under the jurisdiction of such Grand Lodges into our Lodge.

"The foregoing preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted, and I herewith transmit a copy of the same.

"Respectfully and fraternally yours,

JOHN CLARK, JUN.,

May 9th, 5849. *Secretary of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, Newark, N. J.*"

On motion, the communication was laid on the table.

The following communication was also read, and referred to Bros. Camp, Sterritt and Williams, with power to call for persons and papers, and to report at the evening session:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Jersey:

Whereas, St. John's Lodge, No. 1, of Free and Accepted Masons, did, on the 10th day of January, 1849, receive a petition signed by Joseph Camfield, praying for initiation into the three degrees of Ancient Free

Masonry, and said petition having been taken from the Lodge-room, without the consent or knowledge of the Lodge, by one Francis E. Lindsley, and it having become known to this Lodge that said petitioner has applied for admission to Newark Lodge, No. 7, and said Newark Lodge, No. 7, (knowing that the petitioner had presented his petition to St. John's Lodge, No. 1, and their said petition was clandestinely taken from St. John's Lodge) did receive said petition, ballot for and elect said Camfield a member of said Lodge, No. 7. and conferred the first Degree upon him.

In consideration of the foregoing statements, we, the officers and members of St. John's Lodge, do feel aggrieved by the act of F. E. Lindsley, and that the Masonic courtesy due from one Lodge to another has been violated by the act of Newark Lodge, No. 7 ; therefore,

Resolved, That this Lodge request the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge to put us in possession of our Masonic rights, and order Newark Lodge, No. 7, to desist from conferring any of the degrees of Ancient Free Masonry upon said Joseph Camfield.

JOHN CLARK, JUN.,
Newark, N. J.. May 11th, 5849. *Sec'y St. John's Lodge, No.* 1.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment.

7½ O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor—officers as before.

The committee to whom was referred the communication from St. John's Lodge, No. 1, made the following report, which was received and adopted:

The committee appointed to settle the difficulty existing between St. John's Lodge, No. 1, and Newark Lodge, No. 7, after hearing all the testimony on the subject, and mature deliberation, beg leave to report—

After weighing the subject carefully and deliberately, would recommend this Grand Lodge to request St. John's Lodge, No. 1, to restore Francis E. Lindsley, upon condition he confesses his error. Your committee cannot censure the proceedings of St. John's Lodge in the above case.

This committee would also recommend this Grand Lodge to request the Grand Master to withdraw his protest, and permit the Newark Lodge to proceed in giving Joseph Camfield his degrees.

Your committee would also recommend St. John's Lodge, No. 1, and

Newark Lodge, No. 7, to exercise more brotherly kindness toward each other. Charity covers a multitude of sins; we beg those brethren, for the honor of Masonry, for the sake of Heaven, and their own comfort, henceforth to live as brethren of one family.

EPHRAIM CAMP,
WILLIAM B. WILLIAMS,
T. A. STERRITT.

On motion, the Secretary was directed to make out certified copies of the report, to be sent to the Grand Master and to Newark and St. John's Lodges.

The bill of Bro. Bartholomew West, Grand Tyler, amounting to $3.50, was ordered paid.

The bill of Thomas A. Sterritt, for expenses to the Grand Lodge, at its session in June, 1848, and at the present session, amounting to ten dollars, was ordered paid.

The Grand Lodge then closed, to meet in the city of Trenton, on the second Wednesday of January next, (the 9th, 1850,) unless sooner convened by the proper authority.

MILTON BALDWIN, *D. G. Secretary.*

JANUARY SESSION, 1850.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Trenton, on Wednesday, the 9th of January, A. L. 5850, there were

PRESENT,

M. W. JOHN P. LEWIS, Grand Master.
R. W. EDWARD STEWART, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. THOMAS A. STERRITT, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. ICHABOD HARRISON, jun., Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Grand Secretary.
R. W. ELIAS PHILLIPS, Grand Treasurer.
Rev. & W. HARRY FINCH, Grand Chaplain.
W. SAM'L B. SCATTERGOOD, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. ISAAC P. BROWN, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
Bro. WILLIAM B. GORDON, Grand Tyler.
W. FITZGERALD TISDALL, Representative of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey in the Grand Lodge of New York.
P. G. M.'s DANIEL B. BRUEN and IRA MERCHANT.

Visitors—William T. Rodgers, James S. Gamble, John P. Vanderbilt, Isaac D. Brown, of Hiram Lodge, U. D.; Matthew McHenry, George W. Curtis, Samuel Read, James Rodgers, and William E. Bryant, of Mount Holly, U. D.; William B. Wilson, of Amwell, No. 12; L. C. Judson, of St. John's No. 1; Rev. Austin Craig, Cincinnati, No. 3; James Gulick, Luther Goble, Joseph Munn, Jacob Ireland, and —— Mathis, —— Peets, St. Paul's, Boston.

LODGES REPRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

John Clark, jun., M., E. W. Lemon, S. W., Henry Whitenack, J. W., St. John's Lodge No. 1.

Wm. Kerwood, M., Sylvester Van Sickell, S. W., Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

James J. Terhune, M., Newark Lodge, No. 7.

Moses Craig, M., Clinton Lodge, No. 8.

Jeremiah Jaggers, S. W., Franklin Lodge, No. 10.

John M. Condit, M., William Stites, J. W., Union Lodge, No. 11.

The Grand Lodge was opened.

The Throne of Grace was addressed by the Grand Chaplain.

The minutes of the semi-annual meeting were read.

Past Grand Master Jeptha B. Munn, J. B. Throckmorton, Samuel Lair, of Olive Branch Lodge, U. D., and Peter Parker were received.

That portion of the minutes relating to the Grand Secretary, why his books and papers were not present, was on motion ordered to be expunged.

The minutes, as corrected, were on motion approved.

The Grand Master read his address, as follows, which was referred to a committee, consisting of Past Grand Master Jeptha B. Munn, Luther Goble, and Harry Finch:

My Brothers:—We are once more permitted to assemble as a Grand Lodge, and to thank the Supreme Architect of the universe for our preservation, and for his fostering care of that portion of the Masonic Fraternity under our jurisdiction.

It is a source of heartfelt satisfaction that a greater number of members "good and true" have been admitted into our Lodges during the last year than in any former year, while but few difficulties have occurred to disturb the peace and harmony of the Craft.

Four new Lodges, now acting under dispensation, granted during the recess of this Grand Body, have notified me of their intention to solicit warrants during our present session.

Seven Master Masons, residing at Mount Holly, members of a Lodge at that place, which had become extinct, petitioned to this Grand Lodge, at its last Communication, to restore them their warrant. The petition being referred to me, I deemed it right and expedient, on due examination, to grant them a dispensation, and on the 17th of April last, I installed their officers. Their newly installed Master, Bro. McHenry, informed me that when the former Lodge ceased to work, the deed of the building, minutes, books, and evidences of debts due the Lodge, were left in possession of Bro. Beatty. I called on him, made a respectful and suitable demand for them, but he refused to deliver them. Since that time, I have learned that the Lodge is prosperous and in good condition.

Richard Fetters and twelve others, Master Masons, applied to me for a dispensation to open a Lodge at Camden, to be called "Camden Lodge;" which being recommended by the nearest Lodge, and I being satisfied it would be productive of good, granted them a dispensation, and, on the 18th of April last, I installed their officers in ancient form. From the

knowledge I have of the workmen, and the material with which they have to build, I have no doubt we shall receive the most gratifying intelligence from this new and promising Lodge.

Imla Drake and six other Master Masons and members of Lebanon Lodge, now defunct, have petitioned for its resuscitation, and location at Mansfield, Warren county. Their petition not being recommended by another Lodge, I referred the matter to Bro. D. G. M. Stewart, who, having an interview with the applicants, informs me they consented to defer the matter until our present Communication.

Bro. John B. Throckmorton, and seven others, Master Masons, residing at Freehold, Monmouth county, applied to me for a dispensation to open a Lodge in that place, to be called "Olive Branch Lodge." Feeling fully satisfied their petition was entitled to favor, and it being recommended by Washington Lodge, No. 9, of which I am a member, I granted their request and installed their officers. In company with a number of brothers of Washington Lodge, I have visited them and assisted them several times in making, passing and raising candidates of the first respectability and standing in society. The character and conduct of the officers and brethren of this Lodge warrant the belief that it will do honor to the Fraternity.

Bro. William H. Tallman and six others, Master Masons, residing in Jersey City, applied for a Lodge to be opened in that place, to be called "Hiram Lodge." I granted their dispensation, and in the month of October last, assisted by Bro's Deputy Grand Master Stewart, Past Grand Master Merchant, and a number of brethren from Washington, No. 9, St. John's, No. 1, and Newark, No. 7, I installed their officers in ancient form.

Being frequently importuned by the Worshipful Master and brethren of Tuckerton Lodge to visit them, since I was inducted into the Oriental chair of the Grand Lodge, on the 19th of December last I performed that pleasing duty, and feel a pleasure in stating that they are progressing correctly and harmoniously. They have much difficulty in obtaining full meetings, in consequence of many of their members being mariners, and most of the time absent.

On my way home I received an application from seven brothers, highly respectable, and recommended by the nearest Lodge, for a dispensation to open a Lodge at Toms River. It being so near our present Communication, I declined granting it, advising them to petition the Grand Lodge for a warrant, which I have no doubt will be readily granted, on due application being made.

During the prevalence of cholera, a worthy brother, a member of Washington Lodge, dying with that disease, during his last moments requested that his remains should be interred according to the rites and usages of the Masonic Fraternity. I complied with his request, and with

the assistance of the Right Worshipful Grand Chaplain, Bro. H. Finch, and a goodly number of the brethren, I performed the solemn ceremonies appointed for the occasion. The friends and acquaintances of our much lamented brother were highly pleased with the manner in which the funeral ceremonies were performed, three of whom sent in petitions, at the next meeting of the Lodge, asking admission as members.

A copy of resolutions, passed by the Grand Lodge of Virginia, by which they present a copy of a Masonic Text Book, and offer a copyright of the same, on application, to each Grand Lodge in the United States, together with a communication explaining the object of the work, have been received by me, which I herewith present. The book, I presume, has been forwarded to the Grand Secretary, as it has not been received by me.

It is well known to this worthy body that there has existed for several years past, in the city of New York, a Masonic Fraternity, denominated St. John's Grand Lodge, which has been productive of much evil, not only in the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, but also in the Grand Lodges of other States. The officers of the two bodies in New York mutually agreed to leave the adjustment and settlement of their disputes to arbitrators, who should be chosen from the present and past Grand Officers not of the State of New York, provided the Grand Masters of the Grand Lodges of Connecticut and New Jersey should approve of the measure. The Grand Master of the State of Connecticut and myself, desiring the termination of this unhappy schism in the Masonic family, and the restoration of harmony in a city and State, which, from position and influence, should present the brotherhood at unity with itself, signified our approbation of the plan. But I am sorry to say it has failed, on account of a much more serious schism in the Grand Lodge of the State of New York; so that instead of one, we now have the Masonic anomaly of three Grand Lodges in the empire State, each claiming distinct and separate jurisdiction over portions of the Masonic family, arrayed in a spirit of bitterness and hostility against each other.

As it is impossible for this Grand Lodge to recognize more than one Grand Lodge in the State of New York, the claims of these bodies now present themselves for our most serious investigation. It becomes us to examine and digest this subject, with a minuteness, scrutiny and plainness of remark which, if they were not dictated by the exigencies of the case, might seem to wear the appearance of harshness and severity.

In entering upon this unpleasant part of our duty, I would admonish my brethren to bear in mind one of our leading precepts, "to subdue and control our passions and prejudices," ever keeping before us the impressive truth, that the legitimate object of Masonry is to inculcate fraternal affection and enforce the charitable conclusion arising from the principles of our Fraternity, that on many points brethren may honestly disagree,

and that honest difference of opinion ought not to sever that chain of brotherly love which binds us together, nor freeze that charity which hopeth all things.

As this is the most serious and most difficult part of our duty, and will probably require much time to prepare it for the action of this Grand Lodge, I would commend it to your earliest attention, together with the documents on the subject, and especially the dispassionate, learned and unbiassed opinion of ex-Chancellor Bro. R. H. Walworth.

The difficulties and divisions occurring in Grand Lodges seem to urge upon our attention the expediency of constituting a General Grand Lodge, which may bear a relation to State Grand Lodges similar to that of the general government to the state governments. Where there are so many independent bodies organized on the same principles, and professedly with the same end in view, they need a centre of unity, an umpire of their own creation, to which they can appeal in cases of difficulties and divisions, which from unavoidable circumstances of a local or party nature cannot be otherwise settled. A constitution for such a body has passed the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, and been forwarded to me for the consideration of this Grand Lodge. As the subject meets my approbation, I commend it to your serious attention, and trust it may receive that action which the frequently occurring troubles in Grand Lodges seem to require.

The divisions in the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, as a natural consequence, have led to a system of protection. No brother from that, or any other State, can now visit a Subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, without a certificate from the Grand Master of the State to which he belongs. I would suggest the expediency of providing suitable blank certificates, signed by the Grand Master and Grand Secretary, for the use of Subordinate Lodges, when applied for by their respective Masters, and to be supplied to them at cost.

To have been deemed by my brethren worthy of filling the highest station in this Grand Lodge, cannot but excite my most grateful emotions. There is a period in life when all honors lose much of the value at which they were before appreciated; when popular favor, the gilded bubble which danced before us, and which we pursued with so much childish eagerness, vanishes into air; and when, feeling the approach of that event which must put an end to all our hopes and fears, our projects of fortune and plans of ambition, the mind looks back with satisfaction only on the remembrance of good deeds, and can find no solid hope of future temporal happiness but in promoting that of others, and receiving, as our reward, the esteem of the worthy and wise. Arrived at this period of life, and having for many years participated but little in the labors of the Craft, it was with great surprise that I received this unsolicited dis-

tinction. The term for which I was elected to preside over the interests of Masonry in this State having expired, I now decline being considered as a candidate for the high and responsible office which I now hold.

To cultivate all the moral virtues, to subdue all inordinate and unholy passions, to pursue the dictates of reason, to love truth, to seek peace and pursue it, to abound in every good word and work, all the legitimate principles of Masonry, be it, as I hope it has been, our care to adhere to them. This, brethren, is the only sure way to silence the enemies of the Institution.

And let me now, on retiring from this elevated situation, solemnly impress on my brethren, in this way, to fulfill this important duty.

JOHN P. LEWIS, *G. Master.*

The Chair appointed William Kerwood, Ira Merchant and Jacob Ireland to settle with the Treasurerr.

Past Grand Master Joseph Warren Scott, Thomas W. Mulford and Samuel Kay were received.

Past Grand Master Scott made some remarks relative to the organization of the Lodge formerly held at New Brunswick.

Bro's John A. Morford and David Naar were received.

On motion, that a Committee of Grievance be appointed, no action was had thereon.

On motion, that so much of the Grand Master's address as refers to petitions for new Lodges, be referred to a special committee. Agreed to.

Committee—Past Grand Master Ira Merchant, John Clark, jun., and Harry Finch.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, until 2 o'clock P. M.

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2 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor. Officers as before.

Shrewsbury Washington Lodge, No. 9, represented by Robert Laird, Master.

Past Master Milton Baldwin was received.

Deputy Grand Master Edward Stewart, on behalf of Cincinnati Lodge, No. 3, made a statement that they prayed an allowance of one year's dues for not being represented at the last meeting, &c.

On motion, said Lodge was exonerated by the payment of one year's dues.

It appearing that an error of $5 too much was paid by Union Lodge, No. 11, for the year 1848, on motion, the sum of $5 was ordered to be refunded to said Lodge.

William Holbrook, of Ark Lodge, No. 58, and Britton Hoffman, of Trenton Lodge, No. 5, were received.

The motion to appoint a Committee of Grievance was again made, and debated at some length.

A motion was made to reduce to writing, which was done, as follows:

Resolved, That a committee of ——— be appointed to take into consideration all matters of grievance between individuals or Lodges, on Masonic subjects, and to report their proceedings to this Grand Lodge for its approval.

The question was taken and disagreed to—12 to 11.

Bro. Moses Craig, Master of Clinton Lodge, No. 8, obtained leave of absence.

The chairman of the special committee on the Grand Master's address, as far as relates to petitions for Subordinate Lodges, asked to be informed "whether all who were members when a subordinate went down, were to be considered as members of said Lodge, who did not petition?" The Chair decided they were not.

The committee made the following report, which was adopted, and the recommendation carried into effect:

We, the undersigned Committee on Petitions for new, and for reviving old Lodges, have examined the vouchers for the following and find them correct, and recommend warrants be granted for Olive Branch, at Freehold, Hiram, at Jersey City, and Harmony, at Toms River, and the old warrants for Mount Holly and Camden Lodges to be revived.

IRA MERCHANT,
HARRY FINCH,
JOHN CLARK, JUN.

The following resolution was received and adopted:

Resolved, That in all cases of resuscitation of old warrants that have laid dormant, such resuscitation shall restore none of the old members of the Lodge formerly working under such warrant so resuscitated, except those who shall apply for such resuscitation.

The following resolution was offered and read:

Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master be requested to inform this Grand Lodge what instructions, if any, he has given to Bro. William H. Tallman, of Hiram Lodge, Jersey City, in relation to receiving or refusing admittance to brothers from the State of New York as visitors.

It was on motion *Resolved*, That the Lodges under dispensation be confirmed.

On being called they were represented as follows:

Samuel Read, M., George W. Curtis, S. W., William E. Bryan, J. W., Mount Holly Lodge, No. 14.

Thomas W. Mulford, M., Camden Lodge, No. 15.

J. B. Throckmorton, M., S. Laird, S. W., Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16

William T. Rodgers, J. W., Hiram Lodge, No. 17.

The committee appointed on the motion submitted at the semi-annual meeting in May last, made the following report, which was accepted:

The committee to whom was referred the case of Past Master Prudden Alling, with instructions to report at the next Annual Communication, take pleasure in unanimously recommending his restoration.

T. A. Sterritt,
Alex. Dickerson,
Ichabod Harrison, jun.

Trenton, January 9th, 5850.

It was on motion *Resolved*, That Past Master Prudden Alling be restored to his former rank and standing.

A ballot was taken and unanimously agreed to.

It was further *Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be requested to notify him of the vote, and also each Grand Lodge.

The committee to whom was referred the Secretary and Treasurer's Accounts, made the following report:

Balance on hand last year	$402 65
Received this year	240 00
	$642 65
Cash paid out	278 12
	$364 53

IRA MERCHANT,
WM. KERWOOD.

The amendment offered to Article 1, Section 1, By-Laws, at the last Annual Communication, was called up and read.

A motion to adopt was submitted. There being a tie vote, the Chair gave the casting vote in the negative.

The second proposed amendment, to alter Section 15, General Regulations, proposed at the last Annual Communication, was called up, and on motion adopted.

The resolution relative to appointing Grand Representatives to other Grand Lodges, was not agreed to.

The following resolution, offered at the semi-annual meeting in May, 5848, was, on motion, agreed to:

Resolved, That no Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, shall be permitted to enter, pass and raise to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, any person (clergymen excepted) for a less sum than sixteen dollars.

The following resolution was, on motion, adopted:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to take into consideration the correspondence for the year last past, and report at the next meeting of the Grand Lodge.

Thomas W. Mulford, No. 15, Jos. H. Hough, No. 5, and Samuel Read, No. 14, were appointed said committee.

The Chair appointed Past Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen, Past Master John Garside, of No. 7, and Joseph H. Hough, of No. 5, on Foreign Correspondence for the present year.

The following resolution was, on motion, adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey will not entertain any complaint when the offence alleged is over two years' standing.

On motion it was *Resolved*, That the semi-annual session of the Grand Lodge be held in the city of Newark on the second Monday in May next.

The following amendment was offered and laid over, as follows:

Resolved, That the Annual Communication be altered to St. John's day, 24th of June.

The committee to whom was referred the address of the Grand Master, presented the following:

The committee to whom has been referred the address of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, ask leave to report upon such parts of it as they conceive require most particular attention, as is suggested in said address, report—

That so much of said address as alludes to the agreement to refer the matters in difference between St. John's Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, which appear to have been temporarily suspended in consequence of the proceedings which took place in said State Grand Lodge, on the 5th of June, 1849, be renewed and carried out.

It appears, from the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, held the 5th June, 1849, that they had passed upon, and sent to all the Lodges under their jurisdiction in the State, for their sanction, a proposed amendment of their constitution, whereby the rights of all the Past Masters in the State (except one Past Master of each Lodge, who had last passed the chair) as permanent members of the Grand Lodge, from the year 1781 to this time, giving them the right of voting in said Grand Lodge, was taken from them, constituting them only as honorary members, without the right to vote. After the opening of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master, Willard, announced said amendment as having passed, and now become a part of their constitution, agreeably to the provisions thereof; whereupon a scene of disorder, noise and interruption of the Grand Master, as he was progressing with the business of the Grand Lodge, ensued, which to say the least, as it appears to your committee from reports in their possession, had been hitherto unheard of in the annals of our orderly, peaceable and ancient Craft, and eventuated in an organized opposition, on the part of the Past Masters present, to the business of the Grand Lodge, then under the direction of Grand Master Willard, they at the same time declaring said Grand Lodge dissolved; and immediately, under greatly excited feelings, chose their chairman, and proceeded to elect Isaac Phillips their Grand Master, with Wardens, Secretary and Treasurer, having then declared themselves the Grand Lodge of the State of New York; after which they adjourned to the next evening and subsequently held meetings as the regular Grand Lodge of the State. During these proceedings, it appears the so-called Willard Grand Lodge remained in the room, and suffered what they called the rioters, to carry out their intentions uninterrupted, after which

they adjourned their Grand Lodge, and proceeded thereafter from day to day with the business before them, and then adjourned.

The extraordinary proceedings of this Grand Lodge meeting have been drawn up in detail by these two parties, printed and distributed to all the Grand Lodges in the several States of the Union, at the same time each of these Grand Lodges are respectively asking to be recognized as the legitimate Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

It is not presumed to be the part of this Grand Lodge to right the wrong done between the parties at issue, except so far forth as to choose which Grand Lodge we shall recognize; but we are Masonically bound to act according to the principles of our Craft; we are bound to maintain order, harmony and brotherly love in our own Lodges and in our Grand Lodge, and, as far as can be, among the whole Masonic family, wherever dispersed around the globe.

We are not prepared to say, nor is it presumed to be expected of us to say, whether the rights of Past Masters to permanent membership in the Grand Lodge of New York, secured to them, as they say, by charter from the Duke of Athol, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England, in the year 1781, and by the compact of union of the two Grand Lodges of the State of New York in the year 1827, and exercised by them as a constitutional right up to the past year, is of such a nature that it cannot be altered or repealed by amendment fairly made in conformity to the provisions of their constitution; nevertheless we feel compelled to say, that we cannot conceive, upon the mere question of an alteration or repeal of their constitutional law, in this particular done legally, or even any supposed erring measure done on the part of the so-called Willard Grand Lodge, could justify, in open Grand Lodge, the disorder, revolt or rebellion charged to have been done on the part of the body of Past Masters organized and present in the Grand Lodge. If they were even unjustly aggrieved, as they allege, and their vested rights taken from them oppressively, their duty, we apprehend, was peaceable submission and orderly deportment on the occasion; afterwards petitioning or remonstrating for redress, if on failing to effect a restoration of their alleged rights, then to offer submission to the award of a reference of the subject matter in difference to a certain number of Grand Officers selected from the Grand Lodges of neighboring States, as umpires between them. Therefore your committee recommend the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of New Jersey recognize the so-called Willard Grand Lodge as a legitimate Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

We ask leave to refer the subjects in said address, to wit, the Supreme Grand Lodge of the United States, of Grand Lodge certificates, as well as the Masonic Text Book, from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of

Virginia, to the standing Committee on Foreign Correspondence, to be by them reported upon at our next Grand Communication.

J. B. Munn,
Harry Finch,
Luther Goble.

Trenton, January 9th, 5850.

A motion was submitted to adopt it, when the following resolution was agreed to:

Resolved, That the further action on this subject be postponed until the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, appointed for the past year, be received.

It was on motion *Resolved*, That the warrant of Union Lodge, No. —, be restored, and the Lodge released from the payment of all dues that have accrued; and that the old warrant be retained until a proper petition be presented to the Grand Master, provided such petition be presented within one month.

It was also *Resolved*, That Lafayette Lodge, No. 49, be restored in same manner.

The Deputy Grand Master submitted the following report, which was, on motion, received and filed:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey.

The undersigned would respectfully report, as follows—

On the 30th day of January, 5849, I visited St. John's Lodge, No. 1, located in Newark, and found it in good order and in a prosperous condition, with all the officers in their respective places.

During the past year I have granted the following dispensations to confer the three degrees of Masonry, to wit, Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, upon the following persons, viz.:

January 30th, Edward Belant, John Rickelton; February 1st, James W. Newell, David Tyre; February 24th, Stephen H. Meeker; February 27th, William D. Kinney; February 28th, George M. Scudder; December 6th, Alexander C. Forbes.

On the 12th of February I visited Union Lodge, No. 11, located at Orange, Essex county, and found it in a prosperous condition, harmonious and fraternal in feeling toward each other. I granted these petitioners a dispensation to confer the three first degrees of Masonry in due and ancient form on that occasion, and the three degrees were at that time conferred on Platt Soper. On the 13th of March, of the same year, I visited Warren Lodge, No. 13, by the request of the Worshipful Grand Master and the Lodge, in company with Past Master Ichabod Harrison,

for the purpose of installing the officers of said Lodge, which was done. At that time, pursuant to their petition, I granted a dispensation for the members to confer, at once, the three degrees of Masonry, in due and ancient form, on the following persons, to wit, Benjamin Taylor and Israel Harris. In August last I visited this Lodge again, by request of the said Lodge, as they desired information in regard to the business of the Lodge.

I also visited Cincinnati Lodge, at Morristown, and found it in a prosperous condition. On the 3d of January I was called upon by the Master elect of said Lodge for the purpose of installing the newly elected officers, but, in consequence of a pressure of other engagements, could not attend, but was able to obtain the services of Past Grand Master Merchant, who performed the duty.

I also granted a dispensation to Newark Lodge, No. 7, to confer the three first degrees of Masonry in due and ancient form, on the following persons, to wit, H. P. Phillips, George H. Tay and Joel Tay.

During the past summer I have visited the Mount Holly Lodge, No. —, three different times, and found it in a very prosperous condition. On the 4th of the present month I installed the officers elect of this Lodge.

All of which is most respectfully and fraternally submitted.

E. Stewart, *D. G. Master.*

The bills presented were read, and a motion submitted that they be paid. A motion was made to amend, that they be taken up separately, prevailed.

Past Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen's bill for expenses attending Grand Lodge from 5838 to 5844, inclusive, amounting to $42, was disagreed to.

The Grand Lodge was then called off to 8 o'clock.

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8 o'clock p. m.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor

The following bills were considered separately and ordered paid:

John P. Lewis	$50 00
Grand Secretary	62 90
Sherman & Harron	1 50
William B. Gordon	2 00
John Garside	12 00
Phillips & Boswell	23 17
Edward Stewart	7 00

A motion was submitted to reconsider the vote on which the bill of Past Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen was lost. Not agreed to.

A motion was submitted, that the following preamble and resolutions, taken from the published proceedings of 5842, on pages 10, 11 and 12, interdicting all Masonic intercourse with St. John's Grand Lodge, of New York, be rescinded, and that said Grand Lodge be placed upon the same footing as the other Grand Lodges in said State of New York.

On motion, the whole subject was laid on the table.

The following preamble and resolutions were offered and adopted, with only one dissenting voice, (Bro. Elias Van Arsdale, jun., of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, Newark:)

Whereas, The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New York did, in the year 5837, expel certain Lodges and individuals from all the rights and privileges of Free Masonry, which said Lodges and individuals formed themselves into a body within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and called themselves St. John's Grand Lodge, and went on and held clandestine Masonic meetings and assumed the right to perform all the rites and ceremonies of the ancient Fraternity of Free Masonry, without any warrant, dispensation or authority from any legal Masonic body to exercise the same; *and whereas*, this Grand Lodge did, at their Grand Communication, A. L. 5837, pass certain resolutions supporting the authority of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and recommending to the Lodges and Masons under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge that no intercourse should be held with the expelled Masons, or with what they term St. John's Grand Lodge of the State of New York; and this Grand Lodge supposing that expression of their feelings (without a prohibiting resolution), when communicated to the Lodges and brethren under its jurisdiction, would be sufficient for a strict observance of its recommendation, this Grand Lodge feels pained to say, that St. John's Lodge, No. 2, under its jurisdiction, has paid no heed to its wishes; but, in violation of its recommendation, has continued to hold Masonic intercourse with the said St. John's Grand Lodge and its members, notwithstanding the repeated solicitations of the officers of this Grand Lodge to the members of St. John's Lodge, No. 2, that they should respect and sustain the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and were bound strictly to observe the recommendation of this Grand Lodge. This Grand Lodge, therefore, in pursuance of their rights and privileges to

censure, restrict, suspend or expel Lodges or individuals under its jurisdiction, for violation of its rules and regulations, do

Resolve, That St. John's Lodge, No. 2, under its jurisdiction, is highly censurable as a body, for receiving into their Lodge expelled Masons of the city of New York, hailing from under the jurisdiction of St. John's Grand Lodge, New York; and that all Masons who have individually held Masonic intercourse with said expelled Masons of the city of New York are not only highly censurable, but deserve to be strictly disciplined.

And this Grand Lodge do further *Resolve*, That all Lodges and Masons under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, are hereby instructed, prohibited and forbidden to receive into any of the Lodges under its jurisdiction, any member or members belonging to or hailing from any Lodge or Lodges under the jurisdiction of a clandestine body in the State of New York, calling themselves St. John's Grand Lodge, or to hold any Masonic intercourse or conversation with them whatever, or to visit said clandestine St. John's Grand Lodge, or any Lodge under its jurisdiction.

And this Grand Lodge do further *Resolve*, That a violation of the preceding resolution, in any of its parts or points, by any Lodge or Mason under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, shall be considered as a defiance of its authority; and the Lodge or Mason so offending shall be struck from the rolls of this Grand Lodge, and be considered as suspended from all rights and privileges of the Fraternity, and the name or names published.

On motion made and seconded, it was unanimously

Resolved, That Past Grand Masters Jeptha B. Munn and John S. Darcy, for the part they took, in the year 1837, in installing the Grand Officers of the self-styled St. John's Grand Lodge in the city of New York, deserves the censure of this Grand Lodge.

The following resolutions were, on motion, adopted:

Resolved, That Bro. Matthew McHenry, James Rogers and Samuel Read be appointed a committee, with authority to demand, take and receive all books, papers and moneys held by Bro. John Beatty, late treasurer of Mount Holly Lodge, No. 18, or any other person, formerly belonging to, and the property of said Lodge; and the said books, moneys, &c., shall be handed over to, and become the legitimate property of, Mount Holly Lodge, resuscitated at this present session.

Resolved, That the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary furnish a copy of the foregoing resolution to said committee, under the seal of the Grand Lodge.

Past Master Isaac P. Brown submitted a proposition to strike out "fifty" and insert "twenty-five," in Article 1,

Section 10, By-Laws. Laid over till the next Annual Communication.

On motion *Ordered*, That the sum of ten dollars be given to the Rev. Grand Chaplain, for his attendance, and the further sum of eight dollars to defray his expenses at this Grand Annual Communication.

It was on motion *Ordered*, That the sum of fifteen dollars be given in charity to —— McCall, of Camden, and the like sum to the widow of Bro. Ruckle, provided the funds will permit.

Nominations for Grand Officers were read.

Bro's Harry Finch and Ira Merchant were appointed tellers, who, after holding an election, reported the following elected:

M. W. Edward Stewart, of No. 7, Grand Master.
R. W. John Garside, of No. 7, Deputy Grand Master.
" " Isaac P. Brown, of No. 1, Senior Grand Warden.
" " Milton Baldwin, of No. 7, Junior Grand Warden.
" " Joseph H. Hough, of No. 5, Grand Secretary.
" " Elias Phillips, of No. 5, Grand Treasurer.

There being no nomination for Deputy Grand Secretary, the Most Worshipful Grand Master appointed Right Worshipful Samuel Lilly, of Amwell Lodge, No. 12.

The Grand Officers were all installed in person, except the Junior Grand Warden and Deputy Grand Secretary, who were installed by proxy.

The Grand Master made the following appointments:

Rev. W. Harry Finch, No. 9, Grand Chaplain.
W. Samuel B. Scattergood, No. 5, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. William K. Mason, No. 4, Junior Grand Deacon.
W. Ichabod Harrison, Jun., No. 11, Grand Marshal.
W. James S. Gamble, No. 17, Grand Steward.
W. Samuel Kay, No. 5, Grand Steward.
W. Sylvester Vansickel, No. 5, Grand Sword Bearer.
W. James Wetmore, No. 3, Grand Pursuivant.
Bro. William B. Gordon, No. 5, Grand Tyler.

A report of committee made to St. John's Lodge, No. 1, was presented, with request (under the instructions of said

Lodge) to have it spread on the minutes of this meeting, relative to the report of the committee on the matter of difference between Newark and St. John's Lodges, on the petition of Joseph Camfield.

After reading it was *Resolved*, That it be laid on the table.

It was *Resolved*, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to Trenton Lodge, No. 5, for the use of their room for the accommodation of the Grand Lodge.

It was on motion *Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary have 300 copies of the proceedings of the last semi-annual and this Communication printed.

It was on motion *Resolved*, That the unanimous thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to Past Grand Master John P. Lewis, for the able and dignified manner in which he has discharged the duties of Grand Master.

The following resolution was on motion adopted:

Resolved, That all resolutions offered to be first committed to writing by the mover, before being acted upon by this Grand Lodge.

The minutes of this session were then read, and, on motion, approved.

The Throne of Grace was then addressed, and benediction pronounced by the Grand Chaplain, when the Grand Lodge closed in harmony and due form, to meet again on the second Monday of May next, at the city of Newark, which will be on the 13th, unless sooner convened by the proper authority.

JOS. H. HOUGH, *G. Secretary.*

Trenton, January 9th, 5850.

ADJOURNED SESSION, 1850.

NEWARK, May 13th, 5850.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey met at the Hall of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, pursuant to a resolution of the last meeting, at which were

PRESENT,

M. W. EDWARD STEWART, Grand Master.
R. W. ISAAC P. BROWN, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. JAMES OGDEN, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOHN CLARK, Jun., Grand Secretary, p. t.
R. W. JOHN CONDIT, Grand Treasurer, p. t.
R. W. SAMUEL LAIRD, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
R. W. ISAAC D. BROWN, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
BRO. WILLIAM GODBER, Grand Tyler, p. t.

VISITORS.—Past Grand Masters J. B. Munn and J. W. Scott, Joseph Munn, of No. 11; Ephraim Camp, of No. 13; J. F. Joice, of No. 11; Robert Laird, of No. 9; W. Jessup, of No. —.

LODGES REPRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

John Clark, jun., W. M., St. John's, No. 1.
James Ogden, J. W., Newark, No. 7.
Samuel Laird, W. M., Shrewsbury Washington, No. 9.
John Condit, W. M., Union, No. 11.

The Grand Lodge was opened in due and ancient form.

Joseph H. Hough, Grand Secretary, Elias Phillips, Grand Treasurer, Bro. Samuel Kay, of Trenton Lodge, No. 5; Samuel Lilly, Senior Warden of Amwell Lodge, No. 12; Thomas W. Mulford, Worshipful Master of Camden Lodge, No. 15; and Samuel Read, Worshipful Master of Mount Holly Lodge, No. 14, were received.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment till 2 o'clock P. M.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor. Present—

M. W. Jeptha B. Munn, Grand Master, p. t.
R. W. Isaac P. Brown, Senior Grand Warden.
" " Ephraim Camp, Junior Grand Warden.
" " Joseph H. Hough, Grand Secretary.
" " Elias Phillips, Grand Treasurer.
" " Samuel Laird, Grand Senior Deacon, p. t.
" " Isaac D. Brown, Grand Junior Deacon, p. t.
Bro. William Godber, Grand Tyler, p. t.

VISITORS—Past Grand Masters Joseph W. Scott and Ira Merchant, Past Master Luther Goble, Bernard McCormick, Frederick Dalrymple, Rev. Austin Craig.

LODGES REPRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

John Clark, jun., W. M., St. John's, No. 1.
James Ogden, J. W., Newark, No. 7.
Moses Craig, W. M., Clinton, No. 8.
Samuel Lilly, S. W., Amwell, No. 12.
Samuel Read, W. M., Mount Holly, No. 14.
Thomas W. Mulford, W. M., Camden, No. 15.
John B. Throckmorton, W. M., Olive Branch, No. 16.

Past Grand Master Joseph W. Scott made the following report, which was, on motion, accepted and ordered to be recorded.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, and to the Most Worshipful Edward Stewart, Grand Master of the same.

On the 12th day of March, instant, the true and faithful Bro. Elias I. Thompson brought to the city of New Brunswick a warrant from the Grand Lodge, bearing date ——, for the purpose of resuscitating Union Lodge, an Ancient Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in the city of New Brunswick under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

From various misfortunes and adverse occurrences, this Lodge had ceased to work, and their warrant had become subject to forfeiture.

At the last Annual Communication, the Grand Lodge, as a matter of grace and sympathy, granted them permission to revive, and ordered a warrant to issue to certain of them, in place of their old warrant, which had been purloined or lost.

Accompanying the warrant was a request from the Grand Master to me, to assemble the brethren named in the warrant, and such other Master Masons as I should choose, at some convenient time, in the city of New Brunswick, and then and there re-organize Union Lodge under the new warrant, and to install the Master and Wardens therein named and appointed.

Accordingly, on the evening of the same 12th of March, and to the end that the warrant of the Grand Lodge should be received in ancient and accustomed style, I did open an Emergent Grand Lodge, and did appoint *pro tem.* officers, and in open Grand Lodge I did receive from Bro. Elias I. Thompson the aforesaid warrant and request of the Grand Master; and being possessed of the aforesaid warrant, I did close the Grand Lodge in due and ancient form and style.

And I did then and there install the Worshipful Bro. James S. Nevius as the Master of Union Lodge under the said warrant thus gratuitously granted; and I did deliver to him and his safe keeping the said warrant and the insignia and implements of his office; and I did charge him to govern his said Lodge in justice, wisdom and brotherly love, and in subjection and allegiance to the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey.

And I did, with the assistance of Bro. Thompson, install the true and faithful Bro. Haley Fisk as the Senior Warden, and the true and faithful Bro. George Taylor as the Junior Warden of the said Lodge. And I did constitute the aforementioned brothers, James S. Nevius, Haley Fisk and George Taylor, into a lawful Lodge of Free and Accepted Ancient Masons, with full power and authority to enter, pass and raise to the sublime degree all such candidates as they should find, on diligent and strict examination, to be worthy and well qualified.

And I did further authorize and empower them then and there, in my presence, to admit into Union Lodge, thus organized, on open motion and vote, provided the said vote should be unanimous, all such worthy Master Masons as should apply, and be at the same time there personally present. And I do further certify and report to the Grand Lodge, that then and there the following Master Masons were admitted into Union Lodge, by such vote as aforesaid, in my presence, that is to say, Bro's Edward Elkin, David Mercerau, James Silcocks, Cornelius DeHart, James M. McIntosh, Lewis Letson, H. N. Burt, M. W. Leindheim and John Acken.

And I do further certify and report, that Bro. Elias I. Thompson, now a resident of Newark, was in like manner, in my presence, admitted as an honorary member of said Union Lodge.

All which is respectfully submitted.

J. W. Scott, *P. G. M.*

New Brunswick, March 13th, 1850.

The Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master were announced, and received in due and ample form.

It was on motion *Ordered*, That the minutes of the last meeting be approved as printed.

The committee to whom was referred the Foreign Correspondence for the year 1849, to report at this meeting, presented the following report:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey.

Your committee, appointed at your last Annual Communication, to take into consideration the correspondence for the year then last past, respectfully report—

That they have received, through the hands of the Grand Secretary, the proceedings of the following Grand Lodges, viz.: the District of Columbia, August and December, A. L. 5848; Virginia, December, A. L. 5848; Indiana, May, A. L. 5849; Kentucky, August, A. L. 5849; N. York, March and June, A. L. 5849; Massachusetts, September, A. L. 5849; Louisiana, A. L. 5849; Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, Michigan, Maryland, Iowa, Florida, Tennessee, Mississippi, Arkansas, Texas, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Ohio, Illinois and Wisconsin.

In addition to these, your committee also received, from the same source, numerous pamphlets circulars and special reports, touching the existence and claims of St. John's Grand Lodge, New York; and also, the unfortunate difficulties in that State, of more recent occurrence, as well as the difficulties that existed until quite recently in the State of Louisiana. Your committee has before them some interesting miscellaneous correspondence, which will be more particularly noticed in a subsequent part of this, their report. From all the voluminous correspondence your committee have endeavored to compile a statement of such matters as they deem worthy of especial notice, and they herewith submit the result of their efforts, accompanied with such remarks and suggestions as your committee felt themselves called upon, in the faithful discharge of their duty, to present for the consideration of your worshipful body.

Your committee are happy to report, after a careful review of the work of the Craft in the various Grand Lodge jurisdictions in our country, that the general condition of our Fraternity is exceedingly prosperous and happy. Louisiana and New York are exceptions to this remark, and, in the latter State especially, the harmony of Masonry has been most seriously disturbed.

It is with the most profound regret that your committee have inquired into the causes, progress and results of these differences, that have so unfortunately invaded the temples of Masonry, and by which so many misguided brethren have been driven from their duty, and thrust beyond

the pale of Masonry. But duty requires that such investigation be made, that the seal of disapprobation may be stamped upon all unmasonic conduct, and from that duty, however painful, your committee could not swerve.

In the State of New York there are, at the present time, three distinct and separate bodies, each claiming to be a legitimate Grand Lodge, and asking to be recognized as such.

One of these bodies, calling itself *St. John's Grand Lodge*, was instituted as far back as September, 1837. At the Annual Communication in 1842, this Grand Lodge acted upon, and adopted a preamble and a series of resolutions, which pronounced the said St. John's Grand Lodge a clandestine body, prohibited all intercourse between the Lodges and Masons under this jurisdiction and the Lodges and Masons under the jurisdiction of said St. John's Grand Lodge, and censured the Grand Officers of this State who assisted in instituting that clandestine body. Those of said resolutions which censured the Past Grand Officers of this State who took part in the instituting of said Grand Lodge, have been since then rescinded. But yet, as the resolutions declaring that body clandestine still remain, your committee would not think it necessary to call your attention to this matter at all, at this time, were it not for the following reasons, viz.:

1. That said St. John's Grand Lodge invites us to a reconsideration of her claims, in a circular, dated December 26th, 1849, transmitted to this Grand Lodge by R. McCoy, Grand Secretary of St. John's Grand Lodge, with accompanying documents, purporting to be a statement of facts relative to the instituting of that body, and a disquisition upon its legality.

2. That at the last Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, a motion was made to strike from our records the said preamble and resolutions, passed in 5842; which motion called forth a protracted discussion, and was finally laid on the table for the future action of this Grand Lodge.

These considerations have been sufficient to induce your committee to attempt to present the matter before you in such manner as to enable you to act promptly, intelligently and finally upon the claims of that body.

In June, 1837, four Subordinate Lodges, York, Benevolent, Hibernia and Silentia, then under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, adopted resolutions recommending the celebration of the ensuing anniversary of the birth of St. John the Baptist. Committees were appointed to make the necessary arrangements, and, subsequently, members of several other Lodges united with them. A sub-committee called upon the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary to ascertain from him if there were any constitutional objections thereto, of which they had been apprized. The Grand Secretary replied that he knew of none—they had the constitution, could read for themselves, and govern themselves accordingly.

On the 24th of June, a prohibition of the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, dated the 23d, was served upon York Lodge, and a similar prohibition, dated the 24th, was served the same day upon Benevolent Lodge. On the same day the Deputy Grand Master and the Grand Secretary appeared in person to prevent the contemplated procession, and forbade it. The prohibition of the Deputy Grand Master was disregarded, and the Subordinate Lodges above named, with members from other Lodges, proceeded with their celebration, under the direction of Henry C. Atwood, then Worshipful Master of York Lodge, assisted by other brothers.

In consequence of these proceedings, charges were preferred at an emergent meeting of the Grand Lodge of New York, on the 12th of July, 1837, against York Lodge, and against Bro's Atwood, Piatt, Warren, Bennett, and many others, for creating disturbance and confusion among the Fraternity, &c., by a violation of duty to the Grand Lodge. The specifications set forth the particulars of the offence charged, as consisting in the holding of the said procession without authority, in defiance of decisions of the Grand Lodge, and in violation of the rules of the Grand Lodge and the prohibition of the Deputy Grand Master. The whole subject of these charges was referred by this Emergent Grand Lodge to the Grand Stewards Lodge, under the protest of the accused brothers, who deny that the motion to refer was decided in the affirmative.

The Grand Stewards Lodge proceeded to investigate the charges, and expelled Henry C. Atwood, William F. Piatt, and all the officers and members of York Lodge. The brethren thus expelled denied the power of the Stewards Lodge to expel them, and appealed to the Grand Lodge of the State.

Another emergent meeting of the Grand Lodge was held on the 6th of September, 1837, at which the question of the correctness of the minutes of July 12th, with reference to the decision referring the said charges to the Grand Stewards Lodge, was raised, and the minutes were confirmed.

This Emergent Grand Lodge then confirmed the proceedings of the Grand Stewards Lodge, and confirmed the expulsion of the above named brothers from the rights and privileges of Masonry.

The brethren who were thus expelled, with some other brethren who united with them, on the 11th of September, 1837, formed themselves into a Grand Lodge, and assumed the name of "St. John's Grand Lodge of the State of New York."

With reference to the proceedings of the Grand Lodge and Grand Stewards Lodge of New York, so far as regards the mere trial and expulsion of these brethren, your committee are of opinion that it is not our province to criticise them.

We recognize the Grand Lodge of the State of New York as a legal and Masonic body, having power to entertain charges, try and expel within

her jurisdiction, and, in the language of the committee of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, we "are bound to view the result of their proceeding, without undertaking to criticise the *manner* in which they came to that result."

The foregoing is, in the opinion of your committee, an impartial and complete outline of the proceedings connected with the origin of St. John's Grand Lodge, being compiled mainly from the documents furnished by that body itself. From this statement of facts, the following queries present themselves, viz.:

1st. Were the brethren of York, Benevolent, Silentia, Hibernia, and other Lodges, guilty of any improper and unmasonic conduct, in proceeding with their celebration, under the then existing circumstances?

2d. Did the Grand Lodge of the State of New York do right in expelling the brethren engaged in that celebration?

In examining these questions, your committee do not wish to argue from disputed facts. They may be satisfactorily answered by the application of a few general, well settled and incontrovertible principles, and to these your committee will confine their remarks, stepping aside only to notice one resolution of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, which is recognized by both parties to this unfortunate controversy. It is this. In 1827, the Grand Lodge of New York adopted a resolution respectfully recommending the Most Worshipful Grand Master not to grant dispensation for processions, only upon extraordinary occasions. Without inquiring further for any rule or regulation of said Grand Lodge prohibiting public processions, it seems to your committee that the whole question is settled by the above resolution. When the Grand Lodge of New York recommended the Grand Master not to grant dispensations, they most unquestionably regarded that officer as invested with power *both to grant and to refuse* such dispensations, else why instruct him at all upon the subject? They also most clearly recognized it as settled, that such processions could not be had without permission specially obtained from the Grand Master or Grand Lodge; because, if Subordinate Lodges or members have a right to hold public processions without obtaining such permission, then was it worse than idle in the Grand Lodge to recommend the Grand Master *not* to grant dispensations for that purpose. The very fact that the Grand Lodge adopted this resolution, compels us to conclude that the Grand Lodge fully recognized the right and power of the Grand Master to control these processions, inasmuch as in legislating to prevent improper processions, they did not address themselves to Subordinate Lodges or members, but confined themselves to a simple recommendation to the Grand Master.

But as to the principles of governing this matter, we quote from the report of the committee of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, above referred to.

Brother A. G. Mackey, of South Carolina, an eminent writer on Masonry, says: "Processions in Masonry are entirely under the charge of the Grand Lodge. No Subordinate Lodge has a right to appear in public, on any occasion, without the consent and approbation of the Grand Lodge, or of its represensative, the Grand Master."

Again: under the head of funeral rites, he says: "Nor can any two or more Lodges assemble for this purpose (attending the funeral of a brother) until a dispensation has been granted by the Grand Master."

The Ahimon Rezon says, in relation to funerals: "If more Lodges are expected to attend than the one to which the deceased brother belonged, he, the Master, must make application, by the Grand Secretary, to the Grand Master, *for permission to preside over such brethren from other Lodges as may assist in forming the procession,*" *&c.*

Preston says: "Every installed Master is sufficiently empowered to convene and govern his own Lodge upon any emergency," &c. "But when brethren from other Lodges are convened, who are not subject to his control, in that case a particular dispensation is required from the Grand Master, or his deputy, *who are the only general directors of Masons.*"

The foregoing remarks, in the opinion of your committee, clearly demonstrate that the brethren from York, Silentia, Benevolent, Hibernia, and other Lodges, who participated in that procession, were guilty of unmasonic conduct, and acted in violation of the regulations of their Grand Lodge, as well as of the established principles of Masonry.

But yet again: when any brother is installed Master of a Subordinate Lodge, he obligates himself to submit to the Grand Master for the time being, and to his officers, when duly installed. Was it not the imperative duty of Bro. Atwood and the other Worshipful Masters present, to observe this their solemn obligation, and to regard the prohibition of the Deputy Grand Master, without stopping to discuss questions of constitutionality? Your committee think it was, and they further think that this defiance of the Deputy Grand Master was most unmasonic conduct—conduct which, if tolerated, would introduce insubordination into our Fraternity, break down wholesome rules, and lead to results most destructive of the harmony and prosperity of our Craft.

Having come to the foregoing conclusion with regard to the conduct of the brothers who participated in that celebration, their answer to the second question necessarily follows, and your committee are constrained to say, that the Grand Lodge of New York did right in expelling them. To have stopped short of this would have compromised the dignity and authority of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and given offenders reason to believe that, in that State at least, Masonic rules might be violated openly and defiantly with impunity.

Your committee, therefore, recommend to the Grand Lodge not to rescind the preamble and such of the resolutions adopted by this Grand

Lodge at its Annual Communication in 1842, as are now in force touching St. John's Grand Lodge, but to permit them to remain as they now stand.

And your committee further recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey cannot recognize St. John's Grand Lodge of the State of New York as a legally and Masonically instituted body of Masons, and cannot hold any Masonic intercourse whatever with it.

Before dismissing this subject finally, your committee beg leave to add, that they do not approve of the manner in which the Grand Officers and Grand Lodge of the State of New York conducted themselves towards these offending brethren. Your committee can find no excuse for the neglect, or, if you please, unwarrantable delay of the Deputy Grand Master in giving notice of his prohibition. But two wrongs never make a right. And it was the duty of the expelled brothers to have submitted, at whatever cost, and if wronged, to have sought their redress in a proper Masonic manner. They did not do so, and they are now without the pale of Masonry. None would be more rejoiced than your committee to see these brethren return again—more gladdened to see a reunion of those who so long dwelt together in harmony, but who were driven asunder in an evil hour. We hope that the Grand Lodge of New York will open wide her doors, and kindly invite these brothers to "return to the fold of their fathers;" and we feel encouraged to believe, that ere long they will return to the embrace of those who have never ceased to regret their alienation from Masonry.

Another body, claiming to be the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, known as the Phillips or Herring party, and which sprang into existence during the last year, deserves the serious consideration of the Fraternity.

Your committee are in possession of numerous documents, containing a full history of the circumstances which gave birth to this body, and of the proceedings both of this body and of the Willard Grand Lodge. From these your committee have compiled the following impartial statement of the facts of the case, in doing which your committee have endeavored to state such matters only as in their opinion appertain to the question—Is this newly organized body, styling itself the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, a legally instituted Grand Lodge, and entitled to be hailed as such?

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, held in June, 1848, amendments to the constitution of that body were proposed, having for their object the exclusion from voting, as such, in said Lodge, of all Past Masters, except the "Past Master of each Lodge, who shall have last passed the chair thereof." Upon these proposed amendments, after considerable discussion, the Grand Lodge pro-

ceeded to vote, and gave its affirmative vote thereto. They were then, by direction of the Grand Lodge, sent to all the Lodges in the State for their several action thereon, according to Article CVI of said Constitution.

The Masters and Past Masters of the city of New York and its immediate neighborhood, as a class, opposed these amendments, and, in October, 1848, published an address and a number of resolutions, in which they set forth and contended, that the proposed amendments were in violation of their inalienable rights and of the compact of 1827, and were calculated to excite disunion, &c.

On the other hand, two circulars were put forth by a committee, appointed by a large number of the Fraternity, assembled at Geneva, August 9th, 1848, one of which was published in October, 1848, and the other in January, 1849. In these circulars it is contended that the proposed amendments were in violation of no fundamental law of Masonry, nor of the compact of 1827; were not intended to interfere with any inalienable rights of Past Masters, and that the amendments, if adopted and carried into effect, would prove highly beneficial.

With the settlement of this question, your committee do not consider that they have now anything to do, nor has any Lodge or body of Masons out of the jurisdiction of New York. For if the Masters and Past Masters above referred to, felt themselves aggrieved by the action of the Grand Lodge and Subordinate Lodges of New York in adopting said amendments, they could have obtained redress in a legitimate way at home; or if not, they could then have referred the question of their rights to the sister Grand Lodges of the other States, who would, without doubt, have come forward to their relief, if, after an examination, the claims of such Masters and Past Masters were found to be right. But they pursued a different course. They sought to redress themselves. They took their case by force into their own hands, thereby declining the aid or interference of all Masonic Bodies, and the question now comes up for our consideration simply upon the correctness or incorrectness of their conduct in the premises.

At the Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge, held March 6th, 1849, Past Deputy Grand Master Isaac Phillips offered a preamble and resolutions, in substance denying the power of one portion of the members of the Grand Lodge to disfranchise another portion; declaring the said proposed amendments unconstitutional and revolutionary; expressing a determination to preserve the rights of Past Masters as they existed; denying the right of the Grand Lodge to destroy any of the rights of its members, and earnestly appealing to the Fraternity to desist from pressing the adoption of said amendments. The Deputy Grand Master presiding declared the preamble and resolutions unconstitutional. His decision was appealed from and reversed, and the pramble and resolutions unanimously adopted.

It is worthy of observation that only eighteen Lodges were represented at this Quarterly Communication, and these, we are told, were all city Lodges. Article CVI of the Constitution prohibits actions upon amendments to that instrument, except at the Annual Communication in June; and your committee think that the preamble and resolutions of Past Deputy Grand Master Phillips, offered and adopted as above, were clearly unconstitutional and of no effect. They were ordered to be expunged from the minutes at the next ensuing June Communication. This matter is also embraced in the provisions of Article VII of the Constitution, which declares that "no regulation affecting the general interest of the Craft shall be changed or adopted, except at the meeting in June."

On the 5th of June, 1849, the members of the Grand Lodge convened under circumstances promising but little harmony and foreboding much mischief. The Grand Lodge was opened in ample form by Most Worshipful Grand Master Willard. The Grand Secretary was then directed by the Grand Master to call the roll of Lodges, whereupon the Grand Secretary made the following announcement, viz.: "Before proceeding to call the list of Lodges, I officially announce, as Grand Secretary to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New York, that the amendments to the Constitution in relation to Past Masters, proposed at the last Annual June Communication, and which then received the affirmative vote of this Grand Lodge, have since received the affirmative vote of a majority of all the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and have thereby become a part of the Constitution." This announcement was received amid hisses and much noise, and cries of "order."

The Grand Secretary then proceeded to call the Lodges, after which the Most Worshipful Grand Master arose and commenced the delivery of his annual address, when he was interrupted by members calling for the reading of the minutes of the last Quarterly Communication, held March 6th, 1849. The Grand Master declared the motion to read them out of order and refused to entertain it until he should deliver his said address. An appeal was demanded from this decision, and the Grand Master declared that out of order until his address be made, and declined to entertain it. The harmony of the Lodge was disturbed, during these proceedings, by conduct which your committee is pained to record.

The Grand Master having refused to entertain the appeal, the member acting as Senior Grand Warden put the question on the appeal to the Lodge, and declared the appeal sustained. The Grand Master permitted the minutes of the last Quarterly Communication to be read, which was done, and they were approved. This done, the Grand Master delivered his annual address, in which he also communicated to the Grand Lodge, officially, the fact of the regular adoption of the said amendments to the Constitution.

Deputy Grand Master Phillips, acting as Junior Grand Warden, arose,

as soon as the Grand Master had concluded his address, and asked the Grand Master whether he correctly understood him as declaring that the said amendments had become a part of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, and were binding on the body over which he was presiding? To this question the Grand Master replied, that he did so declare.

The Junior Grand Warden then declared the Grand Lodge of the State of New York dissolved. (One party says that the declaration of the Junior Grand Warden was, that the body over which Grand Master Willard presided was not the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, as originally constituted.)

This declaration was made in a loud voice, addressed to the Grand Master and all present, and was followed by tumult and uproar, which set the authority of the Grand Master at defiance.

Amidst this confusion, the acting Junior Grand Warden called upon those opposed to the said amendments to assist him in organizing a Grand Lodge, or as they say, "continuing the constitutional organization of the Grand Lodge." He then nominated the Right Worshipful William Willis as chairman, and also other Grand Officers, who were elected by show of hands. These officers thus appointed assumed the powers of their respective offices to which they had been appointed, and proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the year ensuing. In the meanwhile, scenes of confusion, tumult, uproar, and even of personal violence, were enacted, to which your committee will merely refer. This newly organized body then adjourned till the next day.

During all this time Grand Master Willard, the legal Grand Master, occupied the Grand Master's chair, clothed with the jewel and habiliments of his office, and, by his voice and gavil, attempted to restore order, but his efforts were unavailing. When Right Worshipful William Willis, acting with the newly organized body, was about to put the question of adjournment, Grand Master Willard declared to the brethren present that the Grand Lodge was not about to adjourn, but that its session would continue. A portion of those opposed to the said amendments then withdrew, and the tumult having subsided, Grand Master Willard adjourned the Grand Lodge to the next day. This body, over which Grand Master Willard presided, continued their meetings regularly from day to day, until the 11th of June, 1849, when it closed the Annual June Communication in due form. On the 6th they expelled Isaac Phillips, Frederick W. Herring, P. S. Van Houten and William Willis from the rights and privileges of Masonry. On the 7th, James Herring, Joseph Cuyler and David Booth were also expelled, as were Fitzgerald Tisdall and John Horspool on the 9th.

On the 7th, Grand Master Willard was re-elected Grand Master, and on the same and the next day, the other Grand Officers were duly elected and installed for the then ensuing Masonic year.

On the evening of the 6th of June, the persons who had been chosen as Grand Officers on the evening of the 5th, in the irregular manner we have above described, while Grand Master Willard was in the chair, together with others who acted with them, assembled and proceeded to organize a separate Grand Lodge, Isaac Phillips presiding as Grand Master. During the same evening the officers of this body were installed by Past Grand Master Ira Merchant, assisted by Past Grand Master Bruen of New Jersey, and, on the next day, they closed what they called the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New York.

Your committee have carefully compiled the foregoing statement of the important facts connected with this unfortunate difficulty, from the statements, elaborate reports and circulars of both parties, and we believe that every fact necessary to be stated to enable your worshipful body to arrive at a just decision between the contending parties is found in the above statement, while no disputed fact has been repeated in said statement.

From this statement it would seem that the aforesaid amendments to the Constitution were the rock upon which the Grand Lodge split. The one party claimed that the rights of Past Masters were indefeasible; that the Grand Lodge had no power to curtail them, as proposed. The other party maintained the contrary. As your committee before intimated, they do not mean to examine this question now. They cannot consent to inquire into the complaints of Masons who have set up an independent standard of their own outside of the pale of Masonry, and bid defiance to the legitimate authorities of their own jurisdiction, and who have taken upon themselves to adjudicate the question, and who appeal to us now *not* to review, and if we differ, reverse their decision, but to sustain them. The only question which your committee think important and proper to be considered now is this: "Can the Grand Lodge of New Jersey recognize the Phillips Grand Lodge as a legitimate Grand Lodge of the State of New York?"

To this question, in the opinion of your committee, a very decided negative should be given—the answer, *it cannot.*

The following remarks upon this subject, quoted from the report of the committee of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, September 12th, A. L. 5849, pages 11 and 12, happily and forcibly express what your committee believes to be true Masonic doctrines, and amply sustain the position taken by your committee.

"A Grand Lodge legally formed and organized, has, from high antiquity, ample right to bear Masonic rule over those subject to its jurisdiction. A Grand Master, duly qualified, sitting in open Lodge, clothed with the insignia of his office, has ample right to bear rule in his Lodge, to exact and receive obedience and courteous deportment from all in the Lodge. *None but the Grand Master, unless by his consent, can put any question to vote or declare the result.*

"A Grand Master may err; he may act in gross violation of Masonic laws and usages; but his misconduct can never dissolve a Grand Lodge, nor can it ever justify or excuse those in the Lodge in deposing him from his chair, usurping his legal authority, disobeying his commands, or treating him with disrespect.

"Much less can an individual, or any number of individuals, of their own motion, declare the Grand Lodge dissolved for any cause whatever. And even admitting for argument's sake, that the Grand Lodge of New York was dissolved, where do the individuals claiming to form a new one obtain their authority? In this case they do not pretend to have any delegated authority to organize a new Grand Lodge. Any such action, therefore, on their part would be irregular, unmasonic, and of no force or effect.

"In view of these plain ancient universal principles of the Fraternity, whoever may have been in the right or in the wrong in the original acts that led to this unfortunate controversy, we feel bound to declare that those who, in the Grand Lodge of New York, on the 5th of June, A. L. 5849, resisted the authority of the Grand Master while presiding in his open Lodge, and who put motions, declared votes, and professed to choose Grand Officers without his consent, and in opposition to his legal authority and known will, *were guilty of gross violations* of Masonic laws, usages and propriety.

"No legal association can grow up from mere violation of law and propriety. It is therefore impossible to acknowledge as legitimate the pretended Grand Lodge, brought forth by lawless violence, in the presence and in defiance of the authority of the regular and legal Grand Lodge of New York, in its open session."

Your committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey continues to recognize, in the fullest manner, the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, of which the Most Worshipful John D. Willard is at present Grand Master, and will continue to hold Masonic intercourse with that body, and with no other body claiming similar authority in that State.

2. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge feels bound to recognize the acts of the said Willard Grand Lodge, and cannot receive or hold Masonic intercourse with any person who has been, by that body, expelled from the rights and privileges of Masonry.

3. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge views with deep regret and sorrow the unfortunate schism which has rent the Grand Lodge of New York in twain, and so disturbed the harmony of the Fraternity in that jurisdiction, and recommends to the brethren of that State to use every proper effort to conciliate and restore those who have gone astray.

Your committee have not failed to notice the participation of Past

Grand Officers of this State in the organization of the illegitimate Grand Lodges of the State of New York, and feel constrained to submit a few remarks upon that subject to your consideration. Mere "babes and sucklings" in Masonry, we speak with reluctance of those who have filled the highest offices and received the fullest honors of the Fraternity, and who have for many years exhibited great zeal, energy and ability in advancing the interests and establishing the institution of Masonry in this jurisdiction. Yet, however unpleasant the duty, it has been assigned us and must be performed.

Your committee hold it to be sound doctrine that the Grand Lodge of our State has no legal right to open and establish a Grand Lodge in any other State, in opposition to a legal Grand Lodge existing in said State. The soundness of this doctrine is apparent from this: if the Grand Lodge of New Jersey has a right to go into the State of New York and establish a new Grand Lodge there, then has every other State Grand Lodge the same right to establish a Grand Lodge in that State or in any other Grand Lodge jurisdiction. It need not be added that such a doctrine would hurl our sacred and time-honored institution down into utter ruin. Neither can the Grand Lodge of one State, with any show of justice or propriety, adopt this mode of redressing grievances, supposed to have been suffered by a portion of the members in another jurisdiction, and for the same strong reasons. The Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi adopted this course of proceeding with regard to the State of Louisiana, and she met with a prompt, stern and just rebuke for her unmasonic interference and unwarranted assumption of powers, from her sister Grand Lodges through the United States. Now, your committee presume that Past Grand Officers possess no greater powers than the Grand Lodges to which they belong; and we cannot but conclude that if such interference is unmasonic in Grand Lodges, it is much more so, if possible, in Grand Officers acting of their own motion and without any show of authority.

Entertaining these views, your committee deem it highly necessary that this Grand Lodge should vindicate herself fully in the premises, and they therefore submit the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey unqualifiedly disapproves of the acts of the Past Grand Masters from this jurisdiction who aided in the organization of the Phillips Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

It will be observed that your committee do not assume to try or concondemn any Past Grand Officer of this jurisdiction. It is not their province. They recommend no censure. But your committee recommend the foregoing resolution, because they consider the Grand Lodge of New Jersey bound, in the vindication of her own Masonic character, and in the discharge of a plain duty, to publicly wash her hands of all participation in the institution of an irregular unmasonic body. This she can

only do by disavowing the acts of those of her prominent members who participated in the institution of such a body.

Before dismissing this matter, your committee would merely call the attention of this Grand Lodge to the fact, that they find among the correspondence an official communication from the late Grand Secretary of the regular Grand Lodge of the State of New York, under the seal of said Grand Lodge, bearing date December 6th, A. L. 5849, certifying that, "in June last, W. Fitzgerald Tisdall, representative of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey in the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, was expelled from all the rights and privileges of the Fraternity for unmasonic conduct."

Louisiana.—In this State a difficulty occurred in 1847, which arose out of the cumulation of the Scotch and Modern Lodges with Ancient York Masons. The Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi interfered in this matter, and issued warrants for Subordinate Lodges within the limits of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, which Subordinate Lodges, in March, 1848, organized a new Grand Lodge, which was styled "the Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons." Your committee had given this matter their attention, and should have presented in this report their views; but your committee have been informed that this difference has been settled, and that the Grand Lodge of Mississippi has withdrawn the warrants by her granted. Such being the case, your committee do not feel called upon to enter into any discussion of the question involved in that schism. They therefore pass them by with the single remark, that had they deemed it proper to recommend any action in the premises, they should recommend resolutions censuring the Grand Lodge of Mississippi for her unmasonic conduct, and refusing to recognize the newly organized body styled "the Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons."

District of Columbia.—We have before us the published proceedings of this Grand Lodge from May 1st to July 17th, A. L. 5849.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of this District, in December, A. L. 5848, a warrant was granted to Bro. S. Y. At Lee, and others, for a Lodge to be located at San Francisco, California, under the name of California Lodge, No. 13, and Bro. At Lee was installed as Right Worshipful Master of the same. The Lodge was placed under the care of one well qualified to take care of its interests in that distant region, and enable it to administer aid and comfort to the brethren of our Craft, who are gathering there from all parts of the world.

In the report of the Committee on Correspondence, which was submitted to the said Grand Lodge, your committee find discussed in an able manner several questions of importance, some of which your committee have thought of sufficient importance for a particular notice in this report.

The committee to whom was referred "the constitution of the several Lodges," among other matters reported two resolutions relative to the vacancies of the principal offices of a Subordinate Lodge, whether by resignation, death or otherwise, offered the following in reference thereto:

"5th. *Resolved*, That no person can occupy the chair of the Master of a Lodge except the installed Master thereof, either of his Wardens, or some brother who has, by service in the chair, attained to the degree of Past Master."

"8th. *Resolved*, That neither of the principal officers of a Lodge can, after their acceptance of the said offices, resign the same; but their places must be filled, in the absence of either from the Lodge, by the next officer in rank, or, in the absence of all, by a Past Master, as heretofore provided. In the case of the death of all the said officers, or their removal from the jurisdiction, a dispensation may be specially obtained from the Grand Lodge, or from the Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master, during the recess of the Grand Lodge."

The first of these resolutions, "after considerable debate," was adopted unanimously, and the latter (8th) referred back to the committee for further consideration; who, on a subsequent meeting, reported the opinion of Bro. Charles W. Moore, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and editor of "The Free Masons Monthly Magazine," whose opinions are held in the highest estimation by the Fraternity throughout the Union; and your committee conceive it of sufficient moment to here insert it entire, together with the resolution substituted for the former, (meaning the 8th).

"Dr. Dalcho lays it down as a constitutional rule, founded on the ancient landmarks of the Fraternity, that 'no officer can resign his office after he is installed, nor can any *election* be held but at the *constitutional meeting* for that purpose;' that is, at the meeting fixed by the By-Laws of the Lodge, under the sanction of the Grand Lodge, for the election of officers. If this be a sound rule, and is sustained by the ancient landmarks of the institution, it covers the whole ground and settles the inquiry of our correspondent. But is it so?

"The earliest written regulation bearing upon the subject, given in the books, was adopted by the Grand Lodge of England, on the 25th of November, 1723, 'when it was agreed that, if a *Master* of a particular Lodge is deposed, or dimits, the Senior Warden shall forthwith fill the Master's chair *till the next time of choosing*.' This may, therefore, be regarded as the ancient usage in respect to vacancies in the Mastership of the Lodge; and to this extent answers the inquiry of our correspondent. It recognizes the principle, that if a vacancy occur in the office of Master it cannot be filled until 'the next time of choosing;' that is, the next regular meeting for the choice of officers.

"The regulation on this subject, in the present Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of England, is as follows:

"'If the Master should die, be removed, or be incapable of discharging the duties of his office, the Senior Warden, and in the absence of the Senior Warden, the Junior Warden, and in the absence of both Wardens, then the immediate Past Master, or in his absence, the Senior Past Master shall act as Master, in summoning the Lodge, until the next election of officers.'

"This, like the preceding regulation, is restricted in its application to vacancies in the offices of Master. Neither provides for the filling of vacancies in the Wardenships. Under the English Constitutions, the Wardens are appointed by the Master, not by election. And they may be removed by him, with the consent of the Lodge, if he shall be dissatisfied with their conduct. In which case he is authorized to nominate others to fill their places.

"This regulation is based on ancient usage, and is consistent with the earliest practice among the Lodges. The principle established by it, or on which it is predicated, would seem to be, that a vacancy in an *elective* office can be filled only at the constitutional meeting for the choice of officers. Or, in other words, no election of officers can take place at any other time than that prescribed by the Grand Constitutions or by the By-Laws of the Lodge, adopted under the sanction and approbation of the Grand Lodge. But vacancies in all other than elective offices may be filled by the Master, at the pleasure of the Lodge. Such is the principle and the practice at present recognized by the Grand Lodge of England, and both are consistent with ancient Masonic usage.

"The same rule of succession in the case of the Master, and the same principle of election are laid down in all the old Masonic Constitutions. The Ahiman Rezon, of 1764, has the following:

"'The Senior Warden succeeds to all the duties of the Master, and fills the Chair in his absence. Or, if the Master goes abroad on business, resigns, dimits or is deposed, the Senior Warden shall forthwith fill his place *till the next stated time of election.*'

"This principle does not obtain in the event of a vacancy in the office of Grand Master. The Deputy succeeds to the Chair. But if there be no Deputy, then the Senior Warden calls the Grand Lodge together, and a Past Grand Master presides. A new Grand Master cannot be elected until the ensuing Annual Communication. The article on this subject in the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, is as follows:

"'Upon the death of any of the office bearers, the *Grand Lodge* shall appoint a brother to act till the first annual election; excepting the offices of Grand Master and Deputy, which shall remain vacant until that period.'

"The Wardens in the Grand Lodge of Scotland are elected by the body,

not appointed by the Grand Master. And, as appears from the above regulation, the Grand Lodge has reserved to itself the right to fill vacancies by appointment, as they may occur. The difference between this rule and that of the Grand Lodge of England is, that in the one the vacancies are filled by the Grand Master, and in the other by the Grand Lodge.

"Thus far the ancient and present foreign practice. The corollary of which is, that a vacancy in the office of Master cannot be filled except at the regular meeting for the choice of officers. And if we carry out the principle, the same will hold true in respect to the Wardens, (where they are chosen by the Lodge,) and the filling of all other *elective* officers.

"The Grand Lodge of Scotland has changed the ancient practice, and assumed the election of its own Wardens, and the filling of vacancies in those and the subordinate offices, as they may occur—both of which powers are, in England, invested in the Grand Master. Whether this practice of the Grand Lodge extends to its Subordinate Lodges or otherwise, we are not informed. The Constitution is silent upon the subject. We presume, however, that it does. The Grand Lodge, in a matter of this nature, would not, probably, adopt one rule of action for itself and another for its subordinates. If this be so, then the Lodges under this, as the Master under the ancient rule, may fill vacancies in the Wardenships as they occur. This practice seems not to have been changed, except in form.

"In America, all the principal officers of a Lodge are elected by ballot; a practice which we presume has been adopted, as being more agreeable to the genius of the country and the character of its institutions. But it is manifestly a departure from the ancient usage.

"The succession of the Wardens to the Chair, in the absence of the Master, is generally recognized as correct practice. But in the matter of filling vacancies, there is much less uniformity. The Constitutions of the Grand Lodges of the several States are, with one or two exceptions, wholly silent on the subject. They provide amply enough, perhaps, for their own bodies, but make no provision, in this particular, for their Subordinate Lodges. Among the exceptions is the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, which has the following regulation:

"'No officer can resign his office after he is installed, nor can any election be held but at the constitutional meeting for that purpose. But if the Master and both Wardens should die, be expelled, or leave the city or State, not to return, a new election can be held under a dispensation from the presiding Grand Officer. But if either of them remains, no election can be had.'

"The principle embodied in this regulation is, that a Lodge cannot fill vacancies by election at any other time than that fixed for the annual choice of officers. The provision for a dispensation in extreme cases, rather confirms than changes the principle.

"The Constitution of the Grand Lodge of New York provides, that 'whenever, by death or otherwise, a vacancy occurs in the office of Secretary or Treasurer, the Lodge may at any regular meeting choose some suitable person, being a member of the Lodge, to discharge the duties of the office till the vacancy shall be filled at the next annual election.' But it makes no provision in case of vacancies occurring in the office of Master or Warden. They cannot therefore be filled except at the annual election; at least this is the logical inference.

"The Grand Lodge of Maryland has a different rule, as follows:

"'No Lodge shall elect its officers for more than one year, nor less than six months, except to fill offices rendered vacant by death, removal,' &c.

"This authorizes the Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Maryland to fill vacancies as they occur, whether by appointment or election. And here ends the authorities, ancient and modern, as far as we have had opportunity to consult them.

"From the foregoing we think the following conclusions are deducible:

"That by the ancient written regulations and established usages of Masonry, a vacancy in the office of Master of a Lodge, occasioned by death or other cause, cannot be filled except at the prescribed time for the election of officers; and that on the occurrence of such vacancy, the Senior Warden succeeds to the Chair. It is proper, however, here to remark, that another practice has, for the last hundred years, extensively prevailed, and is considered by well informed Masons to be the most legitimate and consistent. It is this: On the occurrence of a vacancy in the Chair the Senior Warden convenes the Lodge, when the last surviving Past Master is invited to assume the duties of Master until the ensuing election. One reason for this practice is, that none other than a regularly installed Master can, with propriety, preside over the Lodge and discharge the necessary duties of Master. Another is, that the organization of the Lodge is not disturbed by the promotion of its officers. This, in spirit, is the present practice under the Grand Lodge of England. 'In the Master's absence,' say the Constitutions of that body, 'the immediate Past Master, or if he be absent, the Senior Past Master of the Lodge present, shall take the Chair. If neither the Past Master nor any Past Master of the Lodge be present, then the Senior Warden, or in his absence, the Junior Warden shall rule the Lodge.' The Lodge, however, in case of vacancy in the Chair, must be summoned by the Senior Warden, under whose authority the Past Master officiates.

"2. The Wardens were anciently appointed by the Master, and vacancies in those offices could, at any time, be filled by the appointing power; this is the present English practice. In Scotland and in this country, the Wardens are elected. The question is, whether the change in the practice authorizes a corresponding change in the principle? If the affirma-

tive of this be conceded, then such vacancies cannot be filled, except at the annual election. The practice, in this respect, is not uniform. Under the Scotch Constitution, they could be filled by election at the convenience of the Lodge; and this is also authorized by the Constitution of Maryland. The Constitutions of other Grand Lodges, so far as we have been able to consult them, are silent on the subject. Our own opinion is, that the practice which prevailed in the Grand Lodges prior to the publication of the first edition of the Constitutions, is not only most consistent with ancient usage, but will be found to be the most convenient, if adopted for the regulation of the Subordinate Lodges. It is embodied in the following extract from the Constitutions of 1764: 'Soon after the first edition of the Book of Constitutions, the Grand Lodge, finding it *was always the ancient usage*, that the oldest *former* Grand Wardens supplied the places of those of the year when absent, the Grand Master ever since has ordered them to take place immediately, and act as Grand Wardens *pro tempore*.' This practice, as in the case of the Master, would prevent any further change in the officers of the Lodge, and would not, therefore, disturb the organization for the year.

"So far in answer to the inquiry of our correspondent. And, in conclusion, we take the liberty to submit a suggestion, which may or may not be worthy of further consideration.

"The Master and Wardens are the responsible officers of the Lodge. They are its representatives in the Grand Lodge, and are more directly amenable to that body than the other officers associated with them. It is important to the Grand Lodge, and to the Lodge itself, that the means of communication between the responsible officers of both should, at all times, be easily available and certain. The Grand Master or the Grand Secretary should always be able to communicate directly with the Master and Wardens of every Lodge within the jurisdiction. This is not, under the existing arrangement, always practicable. It may, however, be easily rendered so, as follows:

"1. Require all the Lodges, in conformity with ancient practice, to elect, on or near a given day, their officers for one year.

"2. Let the Secretary of the Lodge, immediately after their installation, forward to the Grand Secretary the names of the Master and Wardens, with the date of their election.

"3. Let the Grand Secretary, immediately on receiving the returns so made, enter the names in a book prepared for the purpose—specify the office, date of election and residence. And when so received, an officer should not be allowed to resign within the year for which he has been elected. If an office become vacant, by reason of death or removal, it should be immediately filled by the appointment of a Past Officer of corresponding rank, and the change communicated to the Grand Secretary, to be entered in his register.

"Such a register would soon become of great value and interest, as a matter of reference and history. Every brother would naturally feel a just pride in having his name so recorded and thus transmitted to future times, as one who was found worthy to be enrolled among the 'rulers of the Craft.' And, if necessary, he would willingly pay a small fee for the privilege. It would not interfere with the present annual returns, nor impose any very onerous additional duty upon the Grand Secretary."

"*Resolved*, That no election for Master of a Subordinate Lodge can be held at any other time than the period of the annual election, but that his place must be filled at each successive meeting, after a vacancy from any cause, by the officer next in rank present, or in the absence of both of said officers, (the Wardens) by a Past Master, as heretofore provided."

MAINE.—This Grand Lodge held its annual session May 3d, A. L. 5849, with a representation from thirty-three Lodges.

The address of the Grand Master, among other things, in speaking of the prosperity of the Fraternity, holds the following cheering language:

"I congratulate you, my brethren, that we meet under so favorable circumstances; that every where, throughout the length and breadth of our noble State, the sound of the gavil is heard, cheering a noble band of faithful Craftsmen, ever diligent in the duties of their respective stations, and ever ready to exhibit specimens of their skill, which will command the approbation of the skillful Craftsmen of every clime, and stand the test of the Grand Overseer's square."

The several reports of his deputies exhibit evidence of their love and attention to the various Lodges committed to their charge, which seem to have been guarded with jealous care.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence present a very concise and elaborate report, occupying several pages.

The address, delivered by Most Worshipful B. B. French before that Grand Lodge on the anniversary of St. John the Baptist, June 26th, A. L. 5849, is an able document, in which he has treated his subject with great force and ability. We beg leave to make an extract therefrom, wherein he speaks of St. John the Evangelist:

"And it is appropriate to add that, perhaps in the whole of Scripture history, a more lovely human being could not have been selected as a patron than the Evangelist. He was the disciple whom Jesus loved, and who, at that solemn feast which took place immediately preceding the condemnation, sat next our Saviour, and leaned upon his bosom. Gentleness and tenderness breathed through all his writings. And it is said that as the infirmities of age made him unable to address the church in a systematic discourse, he always desired to be conveyed to the assembly, and as often as he came addressed them thus: 'Children, love one another.' Being asked, at length, why he always repeated this exhortation, with

nothing new, he answered, 'Because it is the precept of the Lord, and if that is fulfilled, it is enough.' "

New Hampshire.—This Grand Lodge met June 12th, A. L. 5849, with a representation of fifteen Lodges.

The reports of the Grand Master and his Deputies evince a spirit, in the discharge of their several duties, which is truly commendable.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence say—

"It gives us great pleasure to renew a more intimate acquaintance with the Fraternity in New Jersey, and we hope that the correspondence now renewed will long continue."

Massachusetts.—The pamphlet before us, from this State, is the deliberation of several sessions, to wit, March 8th, June 14th, September 13th, and December 13th and 27th, A. L. 5848.

The Grand Master, in speaking of the state of the Fraternity in that jurisdiction, holds the following language, which is truly flattering:

"At the present moment the institution is prosperous, almost without a parallel, not only under this jurisdiction, but under other jurisdictions and throughout the civilized world. All the dormant Lodges, with very few exceptions in this commonwealth, have been resuscitated, and a large number of new ones warranted, and it is believed they are all faithful, active and in good condition. Men of intelligence, worth and influence are seeking the honors and privileges of our institution, and devoting themselves to its interest with commendable zeal and earnestness.

"Large additions are yearly made to our numbers, and if we remain united and true to ourselves, the institution will go on from prospering to prosper. But, brethren, a season of great prosperity is not without its perils. In the ordinary pursuits of life, success in business is not unfrequently the high road to ruin. So in Free Masonry, great prosperity is too often the prelude to a disordered and unhappy state of the Fraternity."

Vermont.—The proceedings for this Grand Lodge is for the Annual Session, held in Burlington, January 10th, A. L. 5849, with a representation from twelve Lodges and a large number of brethren.

The pamphlet is large, showing that all their proceedings were conducted with great care and due deliberation.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, in speaking of the Grand Lodge certificate, hold the following language, which your committee hope will be adopted, to meet the case to which it refers:

"Owing to the peculiar situation of there being two Grand Lodges in New York, and she having adopted this system, this Grand Lodge, as far as practicable will demand the certificate, and adopt all other precau-

tionary measures, to see that none but regular Masons, hailing from this jurisdiction, are admitted as visitors within our walls."

The subject of a General Grand Lodge was debated at some length, but finally laid on the table, and not again acted on during the session.

CONNECTICUT.—The Annual Communication of this Most Worshipful body was held in the city of Hartford, on the 9th of May, A. L. 5849; twenty-two Lodges represented.

The Grand Master, in alluding to the subject of a General Grand Lodge, makes the following remark:

"I should be opposed to the formation of a General Grand Lodge with any other power than that to regulate a uniformity of work, and to decide questions in dispute between State Grand Lodges. Other powers would reduce State Grand Lodges to the condition of subordinates."

MICHIGAN.—This Grand Lodge held its Annual Meeting on the 10th of January, A. L. 5849, with a representation from twenty-four Lodges.

There does not appear to be any thing of interest to communicate from this Grand Lodge, and would only remark, they seem to enjoy their usual degree of prosperity.

MARYLAND.—From this Grand Lodge we have their proceedings from July to October, A. L. 5848, and January to April, A. L. 5849, inclusive.

There being nothing that is deemed of sufficient moment to communicate, except the subject now before the several Grand Lodges, of a Supreme or General Grand Lodge.

The formation of a General Grand Lodge has repeatedly received the sanction of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, and in the report above alluded to, the following resolution was recommended:

"*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the organization of a General Grand Lodge of the United States is desirable," &c.

Your committee have before them also, a circular from the Grand Lodge of Maryland, and one from the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, recommending the same measure. With the latter is presented the form of a constitution for a Grand Lodge of the United States.

Your committee do not feel disposed to enter into any examination of the merits of this or of any other form of a constitution for such General Grand Body, as your committee disapprove of the establishment of any General Grand Body under any form of constitution whatever. Your committee regard the proposed measure an unnecessary innovation upon Ancient Masonry, and they believe that, should such a General Grand Body be established, we could not truthfully call ourselves "Ancient" Masons any longer. Masonry derives much of its strength and permanency from its abhorrence of all innovations, and so long as we religiously

set our faces against all manner of innovations, and direct our efforts to the keeping of Masonry within its ancient limits, so long it is safe, so long must it be prosperous and powerful. Once open the door to innovation and all security is gone. No one can tell when it will be closed, or where innovation and change will stop. Experience will show that change will beget change, and innovation will rapidly succeed innovation, until the beauty and strength of Masonry will be irretrievably gone. Your committee most sincerely deprecate the proposed measure, and earnestly hope that those Grand Lodges who have recommended it, will pause ere they introduce a precedent so dangerous to the well being and perpetuity of our ancient Craft, the more especially as none of those bodies have as yet advanced any argument establishing the *necessity* of the measure. Indeed, your committee apprehends that they will not undertake this, inasmuch as the whole experience of the past has shown us that Masonry, Ancient Masonry, has been abundantly able to take care of herself, without any such appendage.

Your committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge entirely disapproves of the establishment of a General Grand Lodge of the United States.

Kentucky.—The Grand Lodge met August 27th, A. L. 5849. The Craft was at that time in a very prosperous condition in this jurisdiction. The Masonic College at La Grange was, your committee is happy to state, in a very healthy condition, being ably managed, and having eighty-one students. The enterprise is a noble one, and we bid our brethren God speed in their work. The cause of education well deserves the attention of Masons, and it is earnestly hoped that the Craft will unite in their efforts to establish such institutions as, under their charge, will extend the blessing of education to all the orphan children of brother Masons.

Indiana.—The report of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Indiana evince a high degree of prosperity of the Craft in this jurisdiction. In the address of the Grand Master, allusion is made to the cause of the former Grand Master of said Grand Lodge, Brother Johnson Watts. Brother Watts was a member of King David's Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and at the same time Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Indiana. The Chapter, for some cause, suspended him, and the Grand Lodge, without charges or trial, and without expressing any opinion upon his guilt or innocence, interdicted all Masonic intercourse with him by Masons under that jurisdiction, during such suspension. This case was taken up by some of the sister Grand Lodges of other States, and the action of the Grand Lodge of Indiana in the premises condemned, as being unmasonic, Of this opinion are your committee. Ancient Craft Masonry

never extended beyond the three Blue Lodge degrees, Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, and it has been well remarked, that a Master Mason cannot be suspended or expelled by a body foreign to his Lodge, and having no jurisdiction over it. Without discussing it at any length, your committee express their opinion that the Grand Lodge of Indiana erred in their decision, and violated a clear principle and rule of Masonry, that no Master Mason can be suspended or expelled, except by a Master Mason's Lodge.

Virginia.—Your committee find nothing in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of this State requiring special notice. The Craft is prosperous and an appropriate Masonic zeal and industry are manifested in their proceedings.

Iowa.—We have the journal of this Grand Lodge for the session of June 5th, A. L. 5849.

Florida.—This body held their Annual Communication January 8th, 5849. The journal of proceeding is before us.

Tennessee.—The printed journal of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, for the Annual Session held October, A. L. 5849, is before us, showing a due representation from one hundred and seven Lodges and a large number of visitors.

It sppears, by the report of the trustees, that they have organized a college at Clarksville, and are proceeding to erect the necessary buildings, the corner-stone of which was laid, with appropriate Masonic ceremonies, on the 22d of February, then last past. We here make an extract from the said report, to show with what commendable zeal the brethren of this State are making towards the education of the sons of Masons:

"In accordance with a resolution passed at your last Grand Annual Communication, the first meeting of the board was held on the 5th of December last, when it was resolved to proceed at once with the organization of the institution, both in its preparatory and collegiate departments.

"The property proffered by the citizens of Clarksville, and accepted by the Grand Lodge, having been placed at our disposal, together with the $15,000 subscribed for the erection of suitable buildings, the corner-stone of the University was laid with appropriate Masonic ceremonies, on the 22d of February.

"The building—a plan of which is herewith submitted—is progressing, under the direction of a skillful architect, as rapidly as the solid character of its masonry will admit of, and will be finished, according to contract, by the 1st of next September. When completed, it will not suffer in point

of architectural beauty, and adaptation to its ends, by a comparison with any public edifice in the State. Believing that such an institution as the Grand Lodge of Tennessee designed to establish, must be a work of time, we have looked not so much to its present, as its future wants. We have sought to lay the foundation broad and strong, with a view of erecting thereupon an institutution of learning second to none in the land. We have adopted a course of study which accords with the highest standard of collegiate education in the United States; and in the selection of a Faculty, we have chosen men eminently learned and skillful in their respective departments, and who moreover are possessed of a matured experience, and enjoy the advantages of a wide spread reputation. While we have done this, and have endeavored to secure to your institution a literary and scientific reputation in some degree commensurate with the dignity and importance of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, we have at the same time constantly kept before us the peculiar characteristic of our Fraternity, and have endeavored, most of all, to make such provisions as will eventually render the University pre-eminently a charitable institution.

"Knowing that it was for the sake of the indigent and orphan sons of Masons that the institution was founded, almost the first resolutions passed at our primary meeting were the following:

"*Resolved*, That each Subordinate Lodge, working under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, be entitled to the gratuitous instruction of one Mason's child.

"*Resolved*, Inasmuch as the brethren of Clarksville have undertaken to provide gratuitous board and lodging for a number of such beneficiaries as may be deputed by the Subordinate Lodges, that the Grand Master be requested to designate such as he may deem the most entitled to the benefits of this provision.

"In passing the above resolutions, the board have been influenced by the ardent hope that the Grand Lodge will adopt such measures as will render its University the centre of a system of education under Masonic auspices, which will embrace every Lodge, and make adequate provision for every needy Mason's son within its jurisdiction. This can be done only through the influence of a *great central school*, furnished with every facility for raising up from among our own children a suply of teachers expressly trained for the work of education, and bound to the interests of Masonry by the strongest ties of gratitude and obligation. Let provision be made for the *entire support* of a number of beneficiaries, who shall be required, after graduating, to return to their homes and organize and teach for two or three years local Masonic schools, under the direction of the Lodge sending them, and auxiliary to the University. Thus will the interests of the University become identified with that of its preparatory seminaries, our united resources will be fully developed, and an

economical, well arranged and comprehensive system of education be established and perpetuated, to the honor of Masonry and the accomplishment of an amount of good almost incalculable."

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, after reviewing the proceedings of the several Grand Lodges before them in relation to the New York question, extract the following, which your committee think not inappropriate to here insert:

"Your committee have now presented, as they conceive, a full and impartial account, according to the light before them, of the transactions which occurred at the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New York on the 5th of June, 1849—transactions which have no parallel in the history of Masonry in times past, and we sincerely hope may have none in future. Under all the circumstances of the case, your committee have no hesitation in saying that the Grand Lodge styling itself 'the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York,' of which Isaac Phillips is Grand Master, and James Herring Grand Secreiary, is illegal and clandestine; that its formation was unmasonic, and a violation of the rules and regulations of the Fraternity. Your committee, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge will withhold all Masonic communication from said Grand Lodge and the members thereof, and with the Lodges adhering to, or deriving their charters from said Grand Lodge.

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge acknowledges only as the *true* and *legitimate* Grand Lodge of the State of New York, that of which the Most Worshipful John D. Willard is Grand Master, and Robert R. Boyd is Grand Secretary."

The address of Rev. Bro. E. H. Hatcher, attached to the proceedings, truly and forcibly illustrates the principles and beauties of Masonry. In speaking of the different features of our Fraternity, and its regard for the Holy Scriptures, it holds the following language, which we here insert:

"Another beautiful feature of the Masonic institution, is its supreme regard for the teachings and authority of the Holy Scriptures. The Bible is found in every Masonic assembly. Nor is it there as a slighted and neglected symbol of the Fraternity. Upon its pages often rest the hand, and falls the eye of the candidate, from the moment the first star of Masonry rises upon his vision, to 'the breaking of the dominion of the Infidel over the Holy Sepulchre, by the tried steel and strong arm of the valorous Knight.' To the authority of that volume Masonry appeals for the solemnity of her obligations and the purity of her principles. 'It shines in her temples as the first and brightest of her jewels; and the durable texture of all her royal and beautiful vestments, is woven of the golden threads of its sublimest truths and most impressive passages. And no where may its leaves be more appropriately unfolded than in her solemn assemblies, since to the labors of her Craftsmen the world is in-

debted for the preservation of several of its parts, through a long night of desolation, bondage and ruin.

"Every Mason should be deeply impressed with the value and importance of the sacred volume. It contains doctrines which have engaged the interest of angels in heaven, and which will be the burthen of songs and rejoicings in glory for ever. The founding of empires, the issue of battles, the government of nations, cannot equal in importance the disclosures which it makes. It furnishes themes for meditation and thought, more wonderful and sublime than trackless oceans, than towering mountains, than worlds rolling upon worlds, or than systems running into systems. It is infinitely more glorious in its developments than all the achievements of art or discoveries of science. The Bible is the peculiar treasure of Masonry. It stands to our Fraternity as the fire upon the altar in the holy of holies of the temple of old—always burning, always beautiful, always bright. Its influence is boundless, its power is omnipotent. Light and fire, earth's purest elements, are but the shadows of its glory. The tongues of lambent flame that sat upon the heads of the Apostles, were but indicative of its irradiating and consuming potency. Its pure flame has oft times been smothered by the ashes of a false philosophy, but as often rekindled by the breath of Divinity. Clouds and storms have swept around it; but they have passed away, and left it to shine in its own native effulgence, like the first created orb which God placed in the firmament of the new made world, to pour its light and glory through all the temple of His works. Every jewel of our Fraternity glows with the brilliancy of its heavenly lustre, and flashes back upon our vision the resplendent effulgence which burns upon its pages. And he alone is a worthy and true Mason who delights in its doctrines and glories in its principles, and who walks in its commandments."

Mississippi.—The proceedings before us is the Annual Communication of January 15th, A. L. 5849, with a delegation from fourteen Lodges.

We find therein nothing of sufficient moment to present at this time. They seem to enjoy their usual degree of prosperity.

Arkansas.—The pamphlet before us is the Annual Session of November 6th, A. L. 5848.

Texas.—We have their proceedings for the 12th Annual Grand Communication, held at Houston, January 15th, A. L. 5849, with a representation from eighteen Lodges.

The Grand Secretary, in his annual report, among other matters, says: "The annals of history cannot furnish one instance that can compare with the steady increase, the rapid advancement, and above all, the high moral influence which has followed the workings of our noble art on the

minds of men, than have been exhibited throughout our young and rising State." He further says: "Six years ago there were but ten Lodges working under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge," and "now working under warrants forty-five Lodges, and under dispensation nine, in all fifty-four Lodges; and to the credit of all and every one be it said, that not one unsettled account remains on the Secretary's books."

The special committee to whom was referred the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, among others, submitted the following resolution, as the decision of said Grand Lodge in reference to the proposed General or Supreme Grand Lodge, which was duly considered and adopted:

"2. *Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the formation or establishment of a General or Supreme Grand Lodge for the United States of America is inexpedient, and that this Grand Lodge cannot recognize such a body of Masons as a Masonic institution, with powers to control Masonry within the limits of the United States of America."

INDIANA.—From this Grand Lodge we have their proceedings on the occasion of "the laying of the corner stone of the Grand Lodge Hall of Indiana, at Indianapolis, October 25th, A. L. 5848."

SOUTH CAROLINA.—Before us we have the proceedings of the several quarterly and special sessions of this Grand Lodge for the year A. L. 5848.

Masonry seems to be prosperous within her jurisdiction.

A communication has been received from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, directed to our Grand Lodge, in which it states that a circular had been received from a Subordinate Lodge of this jurisdiction, and that the Grand Lodge of South Carolina had instructed him to say to this body, that any communication from this Grand Lodge would receive respectful consideration, but that no notice could be taken of communications from subordinates. Your committee deem the action of that Grand Lodge correct. The only medium of communication between the subordinate of one, and the Grand Lodge of another jurisdiction, is through the Grand Lodge of their own jurisdiction; and your committee trust that all subordinates in this jurisdiction will be required to observe this wholesome rule.

GEORGIA.—The proceedings from this Grand Lodge is "the Annual Communication, held at Macon, from the 31st of October to 2d of November, A. L. 5848," with representations from seventy-nine Subordinate Lodges.

ALABAMA.—The Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge was held at Montgomery, December 4th, A. L. 5848, with representations from seventy-five Lodges. The Grand Master communicates the cheering intelligence of "unwonted prosperity."

OHIO.—The published proceedings of this Grand Lodge contains 152 pages, being for the annual meeting held at Columbus, September 25th, A. L. 5848. The Grand Master, speaking of the prosperity of the Fraternity, says: "If our prosperity were to be measured by numbers, the Grand Lodge of Ohio occupies an elevated position. It is earnestly to be hoped, that with numbers there is corresponding virtue, harmony and intelligence; without these, our strength is weakness."

ILLINOIS.—From this Grand Lodge we have a pamphlet of 124 pages, being the proceedings of the ninth annual meeting, held at the city of Alton, October 2d, 3d, 4th and 5th, A. L. 5848.

The Grand Master, in speaking of the prosperity of the Craft within his jurisdiction, holds the following language: "The year that has just closed, has been one of unusual activity among the Craft throughout our jurisdiction, as will appear from the number of dispensations granted for the formation of new Lodges, and the returns from the various Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge; all of which, so far as I have been able to learn, are in a prosperous and flourishing condition. We now number fifty Subordinate Lodges under warrant (including eight vacant numbers), and sixteen under dispensation (including two continued from last year), making in the aggregate fifty-eight Lodges now at work under our jurisdiction."

WISCONSIN.—The proceedings of this Grand Lodge is before us, held at Milwaukee, December 13th, A. L. 5848.

All which is respectfully submitted.

Dated Newark, N. J., May 13th, A. L. 5850.

THOS. W. MULFORD, *Chairman.*

It was on motion *Ordered*, That the report be received and the committee discharged; also, that the thanks of the Grand Lodge be given, for their care and attention to the duties discharged by said committee.

Staats S. Morris was admitted.

It was on motion, that the first resolution presented by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, relating to the New York difficulties, be adoptod.

A motion was made to strike out the words, "and with no other body claiming similar authority in that State;" which was not agreed to.

The question was then put on the motion to adopt, as reported by the committee, and agreed to.

Bro's —— Dodd, —— Condit and Ichabod Harrison were admitted.

The second and third resolutions were severally adopted, as reported by said committee.

A motion to adopt the resolution in reference to Past Grand Masters who aided in organizing the so-called Phillips Grand Lodge, was made, and, after some debate, laid over till the annual meeting; also, the one which refers to a Supreme Grand Lodge of the United States.

It was moved to adopt the resolution which refers to intercourse with St. John's Grand Lodge of New York, as reported by said committee, and agreed to.

A motion to adopt the report, with the postponed resolutions excepted as above, was agreed to.

The following resolution was offered and adopted:

Resolved, That the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary forward to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New York a certified copy of the resolutions adopted by this Most Worshipful Grand Body this day, in reference to the New York difficulties.

It was on motion *Ordered*, That an appropriation of $15 be made to the widow of Bro. James Smith, of Rahway, provided there be sufficient funds unappropriated in the hands of the Grand Treasurer.

The following bills were ordered paid:

Bro. William Godber, for tyling this day	$2 00
J. M. Newell, for publishing annual meeting	1 00
Newark Daily Advertiser for publishing annual meeting	2 00
Charles Scott, for binding and stitching pamphlets, paper, and binding order book	5 12
Phillips & Boswell, printing 300 copies of minutes of last meeting, &c.	34 20

It was on motion *Resolved*, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be tendered to St. John's Lodge, No. 1, for the use of their room this day.

It was moved that the minutes of this meeting be read; which was agreed to—6 to 4.

The minutes of this meeting were then read, and it was

Ordered, That the minutes be adopted, and printed under the direction of the Grand Secretary.

The Grand Lodge then closed, to meet in the city of Trenton on the second Wednesday of January next, unless sooner convened by the proper authority.

JOS. H. HOUGH, *G. Secretary.*

Newark, May 13th, A. L. 5850.

JANUARY SESSION, 1851.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Trenton, on Wednesday, January 8th, A. L. 5851, there were

PRESENT,

M. W. EDWARD STEWART, Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN GARSIDE, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. ISAAC P. BROWN, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. ICHABOD HARRISON, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Grand Secretary.
R. W. ELIAS PHILLIPS, Grand Treasurer.
W. WILLIAM KERWOOD, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
W. GEORGE A. DODD, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
BRO. SYLVESTER VANSICKEL, Grand Tyler, p. t.

VISITORS—Past Grand Master Joseph W. Scott, J. S. Rice, Connecticut.

LODGES REPRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

Jeptha B. Munn, proxy for W. M., Henry Whitenack, J. W., St. John's, No. 1.

William S. Bowen, W. M., Samuel Harris, S. W., Jubal Clark, J. W., Brearley, No. 2.

No representation, Cincinnati, No. 3.

M. S. Mathis, S. W., Tuckerton, No. 4.

William Kerwood, W. M., Sylvester Vansickel, S. W., Trenton, No. 5.

No representation, Lebanon, No. 6.

" " Newark, No. 7.

" " Clinton, No. 8.

" " Washington Shrewsbury, No. 9.

" " Franklin, No. 10.

John M. Condit, W. M., George A. Dodd, S. W., Union, at Orange, No. 11.

No representation, Amwell, No. 12.

" " Warren, No. 13.

" " Mount Holly, No. 14.

Matthew Miller, jun., W. M., Camden, No. 15.

No representation, Olive Branch, No. 16.

" " Hiram, No. 17.

" " Harmony, No. 18.

Haley Fisk, W. M., Union, at New Brunswick, No. 19.

No representation, Rockaway, U. D., No. 20.

The Grand Lodge was opened in due and ancient form.

The Grand Master appointed the following:

Committee on Treasurer's Accounts—Haley Fisk, M. S. Mathis.

Committee on Foreign Correspondence—Daniel B. Bruen, Thomas W. Mulford and Joseph H. Hough, for the year 5851.

Samuel Kay, of Trenton Lodge, No. 5, was admitted.

Samuel Reed, George W. Curtis, Lewis Gotta and Jonathan Alcott, of Mount Holly Lodge, No. 14, were admitted.

The Grand Master's address was read, and on motion of Isaac P. Brown, that the address be received, and the usual committee be appointed, Samuel Reed, George A. Dodd and Samuel Harris were appointed.

My Brethren.—A year has passed away since you honored me with a seat in the Oriental Chair, to preside over this intelligent body, for which honor I tender you my grateful thanks; and that we are once more permitted to assemble as a Grand Lodge, we have great reason to thank the Supreme Architect of the Universe for our preservation and prosperous condition.

I will now briefly state what has come under my observation during the recess of this Grand Lodge.

In the month of March last, I received a petition from seven well known brethren, Master Masons, residents of Rockaway, Morris county, with a recommendation from Cincinnati Lodge, No. 3, (that being nearest to their location) requesting me to grant them a *Dispensation* empowering them to meet in a proper place, in the village of Rockaway, as a body of Masons, and there to make Free Masons, according to the rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey; and they named for their first Master Jacob Powers, Ebenezer Kitchell for their Senior Warden, and William Mott for Junior Warden. After due examination, I granted my dispensation to Jacob Powers, Ebenezer Kitchell, William

Mott, Nathaniel Mott, Frederick Dalrymple and others, named in the petition, to meet as Masons, in the village of Rockaway, until the annual meeting of this Grand Lodge, unless the same should be sooner revoked by me or a proper authority. On the 5th day of April I attended at Rockaway, accompanied by Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master Bro. Garside, Most Worshipful Past Grand Master Jeptha B. Munn, Right Worshipful Isaac P. Brown, Senior Grand Warden Bro. Ichabod Harrison, and several other members of different Lodges, and opened said Rockaway Lodge in due form, and installed Bro. Jacob Powers as Worshipful Master, Bro. Ebenezer Kitchell as Senior Warden, and Bro. William Mott as Junior Warden; and after examining their work they closed the Lodge, to meet the first Monday evening on or before the full moon. I have several times visited them during the summer, and I have found them in a very flourishing condition, and they have added a number of very intelligent members in their Lodge. On the 23d of December last, I received a communication from Bro. Powers, requesting me to attend at their Lodge-room on that evening, as that was the night of their election for officers; and the result of which was Bro. Charles McFarland was elected Worshipful Master, Bro. William Crittenden, M. D., Senior Warden, and Bro. William Mott Junior Warden. I then installed Bro. Charles McFarland as Worshipful Master, Bro. Crittenden, owing to indisposition, was not present, whereupon I requested Bro. Powers to install him and the balance of the officers elect at their next meeting. If this Grand Lodge should approve of what has been done, I would recommend to grant a *Warrant* to the members of said Rockaway Lodge.

I have visited all the Subordinate Lodges in the northern part of the State, and as many of the others as my health and business would permit me to do up to this time; and I have found a number of them in a very flourishing condition, and peace and harmony appears to prevail among them all. I have, during the summer, visited Mount Holly Lodge, No. 14, and found them in a very prosperous condition, and they have, during the past year, added many valuable members to their Lodge; it was well attended, and the officers in their respective places; peace and harmony appeared to prevail throughout.

I also attended the installation of the officers of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, and of Newark Lodge, No. 7; the best of good feeling appeared to prevail among the brethren, and all things harmonious.

On the 27th of December, accompanied by Past Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen, I visited Hiram Lodge, No. 17, and installed the officers elect for the ensuing year. I found them in a very prosperous condition; brotherly love and affection appeared to prevail among them.

I regret very much that it has not been in my power (owing to my health and business) to visit Amwell Lodge, as I was invited a number of times. It was also my intention to visit Tuckerton Lodge, No. 4,

during the month of December, but owing to a misfortune which befel me by falling on the ice, I was unable to visit them.

I would call the attention of this Grand Lodge to certain difficulties which have arisen during the past year between Mount Holly Lodge, No. 14, and Tuckerton Lodge, No. 4, respecting the admission of certain candidates, and would recommend this Grand Lodge to appoint a committee to investigate the difficulties between them.

I have also granted *Dispensations* upon application from the following Lodges, viz.: to St. John's Lodge, No. 1, three; Hiram Lodge, No. 17, three; Newark Lodge, No. 7; Rockaway Lodge, No. 20.

While noticing the Masonic occurrences of the past year, it would be a want of duty in me if I failed to bring to your notice an event of a very regretful kind. On the 27th day of February, A. D. 1850, we had to record the death of Past Master Isaac Andruss, of Newark, who had acted many years of his life in the capacity of a representative of St. John's Lodge, then No. 2, in the former annual meetings of the Grand Lodge in this hall. The high standing of the deceased, in a civil capacity, in a military capacity, as a citizen, as a worthy Mason, seemed to call imperatively upon us to give our testimony of high respect for his memory; accordingly, at the request of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, and Bro. General Andruss' own wish, expressed to me in his lifetime, I directed a procession to be held to attend his remains to the tomb on the 1st day of March. The procession was very numerously attended, and by many of our old brethren of the Fraternity. The Masonic ceremonies, usual on such occasions, took place, and at the family vault a very interesting address, suitable to the occasion, was given by Past Grand High Priest William C. Stephens, of Mississippi. The utmost order was observed, the concourse of people very large, and the effect has apparently been the addition of many respectable members to our Lodges.

Brethren,—Before closing my annual communication, I take leave to remark, that it is with much pleasure I now solicit your attention to an event of very recent occurrence, of the most gratifying character. On the 27th of December last, being St. John's day, I repaired, by invitation, to the city of New York, to meet with the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New York, to attend the celebration of said day, according to Masonic usage, accompanied by Past Grand Masters Jeptha B. Munn and Daniel B. Bruen, with Past Masters Luther Goble and Samuel Smith. The occasion was rendered doubly interesting from the knowledge we had of a previous agreement for a union between the two Grand Lodges, hitherto most unhappily divided since the year 1837; and this day was ultimately agreed upon by the parties to consummate their act of *Union, Peace,* and *Fraternal intercourse.* Amidst solemn and imposing ceremonies, we had the great satisfaction to witness the most harmonious reception of the so-called St. John's Grand Lodge, and their Subordinate

Lodges, to the number of twenty-five, and their immediate submission to and complete incorporation with the regular Grand Lodge of the State of New York, over which the Most Worshipful Grand Master William H. Milnor now presides. Language would fail me in the attempt to form an adequate description of the scene that occurred; *it was seen, it was felt,* with the deepest sensibility of gratified pleasure amid the honest tears of joy exhibited by many, and by the mutual congratulations shown by the vast assembly of our Fraternity who witnessed it. While I tender to my brethren my congratulations upon this auspicious occurrence, I will say, that no event, in my opinion, in the Masonic calendar, has ever passed under my view so extensively beneficial and so highly important as this, in a Masonic point of light; and surely an increased interest in this long desired *act of union* among our brethren of New York must be felt by this Grand Lodge, and the whole Fraternity under its jurisdiction, from this consideration alone, if no other, that now the wall of separation, heretofore set up by this Grand Lodge to stop and prohibit our Masonic intercourse with the late St. John's Grand Lodge, and the Lodges under their jurisdiction, is now removed. We have witnessed the act of their recognition as legitimate Masons, all; there is now but one banner, one chief, one Grand Lodge of the State of New York, and the Lodges called to their standard, which we can rightfully *hail and acknowledge;* it is the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New York, now under the rule of William H. Milnor, as their Grand Master.

Such being the state of things, it remains for me to add and recommend, what has now become obviously proper, that the doings of this Grand Lodge, some few years since, intended and directed to debar and prohibit Masonic intercourse with the aforesaid St. John's Grand Lodge, and the Lodges under them, together with certain censurable charges against St. John's Lodge, No. 1, should be *withdrawn, dissolved,* or expunged from our former proceedings, so that hereafter no irritating recollections of the past shall remain to mar or disturb the *harmony, union,* and *brotherly love* of this Grand Lodge, or any Lodge or brethren connected with us in the State.

EDWARD STEWART, *G. Master.*

Past Grand Masters Daniel B. Bruen, Jeptha B. Munn and Ira Merchant were duly received in ample form.

The committee on the differences between No's 4 and 14, mentioned in the Grand Master's address, are Past Grand Masters Daniel B. Bruen, Ira Merchant and Jeptha B. Munn.

The amendment to Art. I, Sec. 10, presented at the last annual meeting, (pages 424 and 425,) was, on motion of

Isaac P. Brown, that said amendment be adopted, after some debate, withdrawn till afternoon.

The proposition to alter the time of the annual meeting to 24th of June, was called up by Bro. Isaac P. Brown.

Samuel Lilly, Worshipful Master, John T. Neely, Senior Warden, and Hiram Scarborough, Past Master, of Amwell Lodge, No. 12, were admitted.

Past Grand Master William S. Bowen moved to amend the proposition to make the time of meeting the "third Wednesday of January, in Trenton, in each and every year."

On motion of Samuel Lilly, the whole matter was postponed indefinitely.

It was, on motion of Past Grand Master Jeptha B. Munn, *Ordered*, That a committee of three be appointed to revise and correct the Constitution, By-Laws and General Regulations of this Grand Lodge, and to report at the next meeting.

Jeptha B. Munn, Samuel Lilly and Joseph H. Hough were appointed.

The Committee on Treasurer's Accounts presented the following, which was, on motion, accepted:

The committee appointed to examine and report on the Secretary and Treasurer's Accounts, have done that duty, and beg leave to report, viz.. that we find the same correctly stated, and there remains in the hands of the Treasurer a balance of one hundred and fifty-eight dollars and fourteen cents.

HALEY FISK,
M. S. MATHIS.

Jabez Beers, of Cincinnati Lodge, No. 3, and Milton Baldwin, of Newark Lodge, No. 7, were admitted.

The Grand Lodge was then called off till 3 o'clock P. M.

3 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor, there being present—

M. W. Edward Stewart, Grand Master.
R. W. John Garside, Deputy Grand Master.
" " Isaac P. Brown, Senior Grand Warden.
" " Milton Baldwin, Junior Grand Warden.
" " Joseph H. Hough, Grand Secretary.
" " Samuel Lilly, Deputy Grand Secretary.
" " Elias Phillips, Grand Treasurer.
" " William Kerwood, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
" " Ichabod Harrison, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.

VISITOR—Samuel Quicksall, Trenton Lodge, No. 5.

The roll of Lodges was called:

Jeptha B. Munn, proxy for W. M., Henry Whitenack, J. W., St. John's No. 1.
William S. Bowen, W. M., Samuel Harris, S. W., Jubal Clark, J. W., Brearley, No. 2.
Jabez Beers, W. M., Cincinnati, No. 3.
Not represented, Tuckerton, No. 4.
William Kerwood, W. M., Sylvester Vansickel, S. W., Trenton, No. 5.
Not represented, Lebanon, No. 6.
Milton Baldwin, W. M., Newark, No. 7.
Not represented, Clinton, No. 8.
" " Washington Shrewsbury, No. 9.
" " Franklin, No. 10.
John M. Condit, W. M., George A. Dodd, S. W., Union, No. 11.
Samuel Lilly, W. M., Hiram Scarborough, P. M., Amwell, No. 12.
Not represented, Warren, No. 13.
Samuel Read, W. M., George W. Curtis, S. W., Mount Holly, No. 14.
Not represented, Camden, No. 15.
" " Olive Branch, No. 16.
" " Hiram, No. 17.
" " Harmony, No. 18.
Haley Fisk, W. M., Union, at New Brunswick, No. 19.
Not represented, Rockaway, U. D., No. 20.

The amendment of Art. I, Sec. 10, By-Laws, relative to striking out the word "fifty," in the second line, and inserting "twenty-five," was called up by Past Grand Master William S. Bowen, and moved to be adopted.

Past Grand Masters Ira Merchant, Daniel B. Bruen and Jeptha B. Munn were received in due form, according to their rank.

Thomas W. Mulford, Past Master of Camden Lodge, No. 15, and Edwin R. V. Wright, were admitted.

The question on the adoption of the aforesaid amendment, after some debate, was carried in the affirmative.

The Committee on the Grand Master's Address submitted the following, which was, on motion, received and the committee discharged:

The committee to whom was referred the Most Worshipful Grand Master's address, having examined the same, find nothing requiring especial action at this time, except as follows: that the acts of the Grand Master, as set forth in his annual address, be confirmed; also, that a warrant be issued for Rockaway Lodge, and numbered 20.

As the unhappy difficulties within the jurisdiction of New York have been amicably settled, your committee would recommend that certain resolutions, as contained in the printed proceedings of this Grand Lodge, prohibiting Masons in this jurisdiction visiting or having Masonic intercourse with the so-called St. John's Grand Lodge of New York, be rescinded, and that certain resolutions found in the proceedings of 1842, and reprinted upon page 424, January session, 1850, be expunged, and in any *reprint* of said proceedings the above resolutions shall not appear.

Your committee highly approve of the Masonic demonstration made by the brethren under the direction of the Grand Master, upon the demise of Past Master General Andruss; thus, one by one, are our fathers passing away from these earthly Lodges to the celestial Grand Lodge above. His memory will be warmly cherished by the few of his old colleagues that are left, and we, as younger brethren, will ever venerate the recollection of our Masonic fathers.

We recommend the difficulties between No. 4 and No. 14, as noticed by the Grand Master, be referred to a special committee.

Fraternally submitted.

SAMUEL READ,
SAMUEL HARRIS,
GEO. A. DODD.

January 8th, 1851.

Past Grand Master Jeptha B. Munn offered the following resolution, which was, on motion, received and adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to inquire in relation to certain censures against this Grand Lodge, and its Past Grand Masters

(as are more fully exhibited in pages 121–2–3–4–5 of the printed transactions of the Grand Lodge of New York, published A. L. 5850,) under the Grand Mastership of Worshipful John D. Willard and William H. Milnor, as well as anterior thereto, and that said committee be instructed to investigate all censures of the Grand Lodge of New York against this Grand Lodge and its Past Grand Officers, and to report fully at the next meeting of this Grand Lodge; and that the Grand Master be authorized to fill all vacancies that shall occur in said committee.

Past Master Thomas W. Mulford called the attention of the Grand Lodge to the resolution in the published proceedings, on page 441, and offered the following, and moved it be referred to the same committee, which was carried:

Resolved, That the resolution submitted by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the year 5849, in their report, which will be found in page 441 of the printed proceedings of this Grand Lodge of May 13, 1850, and which was then, after some debate, laid over until this meeting, be referred to the committee on the censures of the Grand Lodge of New York, &c.

Committee—John Garside, Joseph W. Scott and Past Grand Master Elias Van Arsdale.

The Grand Master presented a letter from Right Worshipful Jeremy L. Cross, together with a copy of his "Chart or Hieroglyphic Monitor," to this Grand Lodge, requesting us to accept of the same. It was on motion accepted, and the Grand Secretary directed to acknowledge the receipt of the same, on behalf of our Grand Lodge, under the seal.

The Grand Lodge was called off for a short space of time, to prepare nominations for officers, and then called on again. John M. Condit and Ira Merchant were appointed to conduct the election, who, after holding an election, reported the following as duly elected, viz.:

M. W. Edward Stewart, No. 7, Grand Master.
R. W. Thomas W. Mulford, No. 15, Deputy Grand Master.
" " Ichabod Harrison, No. 11, Senior Grand Warden.
" " Hiram Scarborough, No. 12, Junior Grand Warden.
" " Joseph H. Hough, No. 5, Grand Secretary.
" " Milton Baldwin, No. 7, Deputy Grand Secretary.
" " Elias Phillips, No. 5, Grand Treasurer.

The following bills were read, and severally ordered to be paid:

Sherman & Harron, for advertising	$ 1 46
Newark Daily Advertiser, for advertising	1 25
John Garside, expenses	7 37
Isaac P. Brown, expenses	6 50
Grand Secretary, for salary, postage, &c	58 02
Charles Scott, binding pamphlets, &c	4 00
Phillips & Boswell, printing proceedings of last session	42 97
Sylvester Vansickel, Tyler	2 00
Milton Baldwin, expenses	4 00

Past Master Samuel Read offered the following, which on motion was adopted:

Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master be directed to demand and receive from F. G. Tisdall, late Grand Representative from the Grand Lodge of New Jersey to the Grand Lodge of New York, the jewel and clothing of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey.

It was on motion *Ordered*, That the Grand Master, Grand Secretary and Deputy Grand Secretary be instructed to correct the minutes, and have the usual number printed; they to invite proposals for the same, and have it done by the lowest and best bidder.

Bro. Britton Hoffman, of Trenton Lodge, No. 5, was admitted.

It was on motion *Ordered*, That the Grand Master continue his prohibition in relation to the difference between Tuckerton Lodge, No. 4, and Mount Holly Lodge, No. 14.

The officers elect present were duly installed, and those who were absent were installed by proxy, and proclaimed as such.

The minutes of this annual meeting were read, and, on motion, were approved.

It was on motion *Ordered*, That the Grand Secretary be requested to publish the list of members, of the several Subordinate Lodges, to these minutes.

The Grand Master made the following appointments:

Rev. & W. Harry Finch, No. 9, Grand Chaplain.
W. Samuel Lilly, No. 12, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. Joseph Dalrymple, No. 3, Junior Grand Deacon.
W. Charles E. Stewart, No. 1, Grand Marshal.
W. Isaac D. Brown, No. 17, Grand Steward.
W. John Sim, No. 13, Grand Steward.
W. Matthew Miller, jun., No. 15, Grand Swordbearer.
W. Elias R. Ogden, No. 7, Grand Pursuivant.
W. Amos Howell, No. 5, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge then closed in harmony and due form, to meet again on the second Wednesday in January next, at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Trenton, unless sooner convened by the proper authority.

JOSEPH H. HOUGH, *G. Secretary.*

Trenton, January 8, 5851.

JANUARY SESSION, 1852.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Trenton, on Wednesday, January 14th, A. L. 5852, there were

PRESENT,

M. W. EDWARD STEWART, Grand Master.
R. W. WILLIAM S. BOWEN, Deputy Grand Master, p. t.
R. W. SAMUEL READ, Grand Senior Warden, p. t.
R. W. SAMUEL HARRIS, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Grand Secretary.
R. W. ELIAS PHILLIPS, Grand Treasurer.
W. JOSEPH DALRIMPLE, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
W. FRANCIS D. MULFORD, Junior Grand Deacon, p.t.
Bro. AMOS HOWELL, Grand Tyler.
R. W. WILLIAM KERWOOD, Representative of the Grand Lodge of New York.

VISITORS—Past Grand Master Jeptha B. Munn, of No. 1; William C. Gessner, of Diogenes, U. D.; Elijah R. Hall, of Warren, No. 13; John P. Vanderbelt, of Hiram, No. 17; Leon Hyneman, of Shekinah, No. 246, Philadelphia; Francis D. Mulford, of No. 9, Philadelphia; Titus Loci, of Perseverance, No. 22, Pennsylvania.

LODGES REPRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

F. W. Ricord, W. M., Henry Whitenack, S. W., John Whitehead, J. W., St. John's, No. 1.
William S. Bowen, W. M., Brearley, No. 2.
Jabez Beers, W. M., Cincinnati, No. 3.
William K. Mason, W. M., Tuckerton, No. 4.
S. Vansickel, W. M., Samuel Quicksall, J. W., Trenton, No. 5.
James C. Ogden, W. M., Newark, No. 7.
No representation, Clinton, No. 8.
Jacob W. Morris, W. M., Washington Shrewsbury, No. 9.
No representation, Franklin, No. 10.
Simeon Harrison, W. M., Union, at Orange, No. 11.
No representation, Amwell, No. 12.
John Dill, W. M., Warren, No. 13.
Anthony Phillips, W. M., Samuel Read, P. M., Mount Holly, No. 14.
No representation, Camden, No. 15.
" " Olive Branch, No. 16.
" " Hiram, No. 17.
" " Harmony, No. 18.
George Taylor, W. M., Union, at New Brunswick, No. 19.
No representation, Rockaway, No. 20.

The Grand Lodge was opened in due and ancient form.

The Craft was called from labor to refreshment, for the space of one hour.

After some time being spent therein, the Grand Lodge was called on, and the Chair appointed Bro's Samuel Lilly, Samuel Harris and Isaac P. Brown a committee on the Secretary and Treasurer's accounts.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to dinner.

2½ O'CLOCK.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor. Same officers present.

VISITORS.—Thomas Mills, of Brearley, No. 2; Joseph W. Miller, of St. John's, No. 1; Willet Dunn, of Trenton, No. 5; Past Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen, of Newark, No. 7; Past Master Samuel Lilly, of Amwell, No. 12; Edmund Perry, Henry McMiller and James Davison, of No. 13.

The roll of Lodges was called:

F. W. Ricord, W. M., Henry Whitenack, S. W., John Whitehead, J. W., St. John's, No. 1.

William Bowen, W. M., Brearley, No. 2.

Jabez Beers, W. M., Cincinnati, No. 3.

William K. Mason, W. M., Tuckerton, No. 4.

S. Vansickel, W. M., Samuel Quicksall, J. W., Trenton, No. 5.

James C. Ogden, W. M., Newark, No. 7.

No representation, Clinton, No. 8.

Jacob W. Morris, W. M., Washington Shrewsbury, No. 9.

No representation, Franklin, No. 10.

Simeon Harrison, W. M., Union, at Orange, No. 11.

No representation, Amwell, No. 12.

John Dill, W. M., Warren, No. 13.

Anthony Phillips, W. M., Mount Holly, No. 14.

James M. Cassady, W. M., Camden, No. 15.

No representation, Olive Branch, No. 16.

" " Hiram, No. 17.

" " Harmony, No. 18.

George Taylor, W. M., Union, at New Brunswick, No. 19.

No representation, Rockaway, No. 20.

The committee on the Secretary and Treasurer's accounts made the following report, which was, on motion, accepted and adopted.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Jersey:

The undersigned, your committee to audit the accounts of the Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer, with leave, report that he has received as follows:

Balance on hand last year	$158 14
Received from various sources this year	239 50
	$397 64
Paid out, as per vouchers	126 30
Leaving in his hands	$271 34
Received this day, per Grand Secretary	171 75
Now in his hands	$443 09

Respectfully submitted.

S. Lilly,
Samuel Harris,
Isaac P. Brown.

The Committee on the Revision of the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and General Regulations, made the following report:

The committee appointed by this Grand Lodge, in January, 1851, to revise and correct the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of this Grand Lodge, and report thereon at this time, ask leave to state, that in respect to the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, framed and adopted by our Masonic predecessors, on the 18th of December, 1786,* for the government of the Masonic Fraternity of this State, then and in aftertime, and although this very Constitution, with the By-Laws and Regulations, was placed in the hands of a committee for revision, alteration or amendment, and reported what they had done to the Grand Lodge on the 10th of November, 1818, who then adopted their report, with the alterations time had seemed to them to render necessary and proper, yet the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, as far as can be now recollected, was not changed or altered in any one particular; and it is presumed that the powers of the committee, or even the Grand Lodge, could not change this Constitution only in the manner and mode pointed out therein, on page 10, and section 16, of said instrument, which reads thus:

"No alteration or addition shall be made to this Constitution, unless proposed in writing and supported by the representatives of five Lodges, and a fair copy thereof, certified by the Grand Secretary, shall be forwarded to every Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, for their consideration until the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge; and such proposed alteration or addition hereunto shall not take place, unless there shall appear therefor the votes of two-thirds of the Lodges represented."

And now allow us to say, that a Constitution which has stood unchanged for sixty-six years, and the By-Laws and Regulations for the government

* Should be July 6th, 1790. (Grand Secretary.)

of this Grand Lodge, which has endured the test of time and experience without any material change for the term of thirty-four years, although plain in structure and short in details, has surely answered our purposes admirably well so far.

Yet some alterations in our By-Laws and Regulations appear to us necessary and proper to offer for the consideration of this Grand Lodge in our report. We recommend that section 1st, Article 1st, page 11, be stricken out, and insert, as section 1st—The Yearly Communication of this Grand Lodge shall be held at Trenton, on the first Wednesday after the second Tuesday in January, in every year, subject, nevertheless, to be changed hereafter, as to time and place of meeting, by a majority vote of the Grand Lodge, at their Annual Grand Communication.

On page 13, section 5, 2d and 23d lines, strike out the word "Right" and insert the word "Most."

On page 14, section 10, strike out the whole section, and insert in place of it—"Section 10. Every member of a constituted Lodge under this Grand Lodge, shall pay annually the sum of twenty-five cents to the general charity fund and for necessary expenses, subject, however, to be changed or amended in amount by a majority vote of the Grand Lodge at their annual meetings, as occasion may require."

On page 15, section 13, strike out the words "three dollars," in the third line, and insert "one dollar."

On page 16, section 14, after the word "Communication," in the 2d line, strike out the rest of the section.

On page 17, Article 2, Section 1, after the word "officers," in the 3d line, add the words "except by permission of the Grand Master," and after the word "the," at the end of the 7th line, insert "yearly," and after the word "Communication," following, strike out the rest of the section.

On page 22, Article 4, Section 1 to be stricken out, and inserted as section —. "It shall be the duty of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and the Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, to visit all the Lodges every year, if in their power, and for this purpose and their convenience, they are hereby authorized to divide the State into as many convenient Masonic Districts as they may deem necessary; and for the purpose of establishing a more uniform system of Lectures, and if they cannot attend to the duties of Grand Visitations themselves, they may appoint one Grand Lecturer to each district, whose duty it shall be, in the absence of the Grand Officers aforesaid, to lecture in the different Lodges of the State, at least once a year, upon a uniform system of work, first to be agreed upon and regulated by and in the presence of the aforesaid Grand Officers; and for the compensation of said Grand Officer and Lecturer, if appointed under the hand and seal of the Grand Master, they shall be paid by the different Subordinate Lodges one dollar per day

and their traveling expenses and subsistence while in the service of said Lodges. In order that it may be convenient, from location, for the aforesaid Grand Officers to attend personally in the district divided off to suit their different residences, so that they can perform the duties of Grand Visitations, the Grand and Deputy Grand Masters should be elected as follows: one for the eastern division, and the other for the western division of the State; and the Grand Wardens, also, should be elected in reference to convenience of location for the service of Grand Visitations. The reports from the different districts, as to the condition of the Lodges in the same, to be sent to the Grand Master, at least two weeks before every Annual Grand Lodge meeting."

On page 30, Section 10, after the word "distance," in the third line, strike out the word "shall," and insert the word "may," in its place.

On page 32, Section 15, after the word "expelled," at the end of the third line, insert "unless from inability to pay and worthy, to be determined by vote of the Lodge."

On page 32 of General Regulations, an additional section is proposed: "For entering, passing and raising to the Master Mason's degree, in all the Subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction, not less than the sum of sixteen dollars shall be received."

Edwin G. Clark, Junior Warden, representing Amwell Lodge, No. 12, and Simon Kahnweiler, of Trenton Lodge, No. 5, were received.

It was on motion of Past Master Samuel Read, *Ordered*, That the report of the Committee on Revision be accepted.

It was on motion *Ordered*, That the committee be discharged, with the thanks of the Grand Lodge.

It was moved that the amendments lie over till the next Annual Communication; that the Grand Secretary have the report printed, and a sufficient number sent to the Subordinate Lodges.

After some debate the motion was withdrawn.

On motion of Past Grand Master Jeptha B. Munn, *Ordered*, That the report of the Committee on Revision now presented as the proposed amendments to the By-Laws, Rules and General Regulations of this Grand Lodge, after being seconded, was laid over one year.

Past Grand Master Joseph W. Scott and Past Master James Paul were received.

The Grand Master presented the following address, which was on motion referred to the following committee: Past

Grand Master Jeptha B. Munn and Past Master Isaac P. Brown.

My Brethren—Another year has passed away, and we have again met together at our Annual Grand Communication; it therefore becomes my duty to note occurrences which have taken place in the time, as far as I am associated with them, as your presiding officer. A petition has reached me, agreeably to our forms in such cases, for a dispensation to open a Lodge at Red Bank, Monmouth county, called Navesink Lodge, under the charge of Thomas E. Combs as Worshipful Master, John McBrian, jun., as Senior Warden, and John E. Norris as Junior Warden, which request I have granted, and authorized the Most Worshipful Past Grand Master John P. Lewis to instal them as such.

Also, I have granted a dispensation on petition, according to the necessary form, to constitute a Lodge in the city of Newark, named Diogenes Lodge, under the care of William C. Gessner as Worshipful Master, Frederick Gauppe as Senior Warden, and William Liebe as Junior Warden. As the above granted dispensations will expire with the present meeting of the Grand Lodge, I hereby recommend for their consideration the granting necessary warrants to constitute them as regular Lodges, if meeting with your approbation. I have given permission to Rockaway Lodge, No. 20, to meet semi-monthly at the village of Dover, and open their Lodge until the pleasure of the Grand Lodge can be ascertained on the subject.

I have given leave to Tuckerton Lodge, No. 4, to change their place of meeting, in the village where it was formerly held, until the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge. I have granted dispensations to the following Lodges, viz.: St. John's Lodge, No. 1; Hiram Lodge, No. 17; Rockaway Lodge, No. 20; Camden Lodge, No. 15; Brearley Lodge, No. 2, to enter, pass and raise to the sublime degree of Master Mason at one meeting, without the usual form of laying over the application for one month.

I have visited the following Lodges, viz.: St. John's Lodge, No. 1, Newark Lodge, No. 7, Union Lodge, No. 11, Hiram Lodge, No. 17, Cincinnati Lodge, No. 3, Rockaway Lodge, No. 20, Trenton Lodge, No. 5, Amwell Lodge, No. 12, Mount Holly Lodge, No. 14, Warren Lodge, No. 13; and a majority of the said Lodges I have found in a flourishing condition.

Brethren, it may be interesting to review a part of our Masonic history in this State, by way of contrast, to show our former days of adversity and our present days of prosperity. Some years since we passed through the *dark age of Masonry*, when a considerable portion of the people, excited by some of the public press in our country, were urged on and inflamed by a political persecuting faction, called Anti-Masonic, the leaders of

which only aimed to obtain political power and place. Then they made an open attack upon us, as a society, charging us most falsely of high crimes and misdemeanors, without the least shadow of proof. Then it was that many of our Lodges felt obliged to cease their labors and retire from the field of contest, to endure and bear for a time in silence the peltings of the popular storm from without, waiting patiently for the rage of faction to expend its fury and exhaust itself. Afterwards a time of reaction took place in our favor; we recovered from the blow; we resumed our strength and union; and the Masonic Fraternity, by degrees, acquired the prosperous condition we now maintain.

The first period of our rally in this hall showed barely enough representatives to constitute a Grand Lodge, yet there is a considerable number of our Fraternity, both before and during the period of our adversity, who have not yet come forward to join our Lodges and aid us, owing to age and other causes. Still many of the firm supporters of our Fraternity, then *good men and true, we trust*, are now with us, and help to increase our list of members, returned here by the Lodges at our last Annual Communication, numbering five hundred and fifty-seven. The return of this year's numbers, when added, make a considerable increase. For this accession and revival since the days of prostration, have we not cause for mutual congratulations? We are advancing in numbers, though slowly yet prosperously as we hope and trust, add to which, as a cause of rejoicing, our former difficulties among ourselves and in connection with a sister Grand Lodge, relative to censure and non-intercourse with us, are now all healed, and harmony perfectly restored.

Brethren, the time was when Masonic societies were denounced for their secrecy; the time has now come when secret societies, rashly multiplied among us and of various names, have become popular; they are all, it is believed, more or less devoted to Friendship, Charity and Mutual Relief; all, no doubt, good in their way, imitating in some degree our venerable institution, especially as to secrecy; all professing, as we do, to do good to our fellow beings. We and they are now at peace to pursue our benevolent mission on earth undisturbed, even by bigotry or persecution. The storm is over and gone, public opinion is now mainly favorable to us all. There is yet, however, a spirit, even in our free country, in hostility towards us and our cause, that would interfere with and usurp the rights of private opinion and our privilege of meeting, if they had the power so to do. Oppression and tyranny ever has had some foothold, but this spirit of despotism must necessarily now be limited to a small number, and is in a measure but the weak resemblance and a mere echo of that despotic spirit which now rules with stern oppression the millions of the people of the old world, enemies, as they are, to the rights and liberties of their fellow men. But truth, justice and freedom has at last a resting place here in our free, great and glorious country.

Finally, brethren, it is due to you and myself to state that you will please to consider me as preferring not to be a candidate for re-election to the high honor you have heretofore conferred upon me in electing me as your presiding officer, and I must in the meantime ask your indulgence for my inability, particularly in not visiting the different Lodges in the western part of the State, it having been entirely out of my power, owing to my public situation and multiplied cares. You will please, then, to accept my thanks as a Grand Lodge, and indeed all my Masonic brethren, wheresoever I have met with them in this jurisdiction, are alike entitled to my peculiar regard and fraternal attachment; and may peace, harmony and true friendship ever unite us.

EDWARD STEWART, *G. Master.*

Past Master Samuel Lilly offered the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas, Brother Hiram Scarborough, Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, has met with a serious accident, by which he has lost his right hand; *and whereas,* said brother is in very moderate circumstances—therefore,

Resolved, That —— dollars is hereby appropriated for his relief.

Past Grand Master Jeptha B. Munn moved its reference to a committee, which prevailed.

John Whitehead and Elias Phillips were appointed the committee.

The Grand Lodge then took a recess of fifteen minutes, and after that space of time called again on labor.

The committee to whom was referred the case of Hiram Scarborough, reported as follows:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey:

The committee appointed on the resolution offered by Bro. Lilly, relative to the case of Bro. Hiram Scarborough, Junior Grand Warden of this Grand Lodge, beg leave respectfully to report, that they have had the matter under consideration, and have heard the statements of brethren having knowledge of the case, and would recommend the passage of the resolution offered by Bro. Lilly, after filling the blank in the resolution with fifty dollars.

JNO. WHITEHEAD,
ELIAS PHILLIPS.

January 14th, 1852.

It was on motion *Ordered,* That the report be adopted.

James Smeeton, of Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 155, and

Samuel Smeeton, of ——, No. 3, Philadelphia, and Samuel Kay, of Trenton Lodge, No. 5, were received.

Bro's F. W. Ricord and Samuel Read were appointed tellers to conduct the election of officers.

Before proceeding to the election, Past Grand Master Jeptha B. Munn read the following preamble and resolutions, which were, on motion, unanimously ordered to be entered on the minutes:

A copy of a preamble and resolutions adopted unanimously by St. John's Lodge, No. 1, A. Y. M., of the city of Newark, January 10th, 5852.

Whereas, It is understood that our present esteemed Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of this State, Bro. E. Stewart, considers it advisable to decline a re-election to the office which he has so long and faithfully filled, therefore St. John's Lodge, No. 1, deem it not only fitting but just, to mark their sense of his services in a distinct and emphatic manner, provided such is his determination.

Resolved, That St. John's Lodge, No. 1, have heard with regret a report of the intended "retirement" of the present Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That his course, while presiding over the entire Masonic Fraternity of New Jersey, has been so conciliatory, tending to prevent and to heal breaches; so conservative, restoring and keeping up the ancient usages of our ancient Craft; and so zealous and successful in increasing the popularity and influence of Masonry in the community as to merit our most unqualified approbation and our heartiest thanks.

Resolved, That in retiring from office he leaves behind him a happy memory, and bears with him the best wishes of this Lodge for his future prosperity and felicity.

Resolved, That St. John's Lodge, No. 1, of the city of Newark, would respectfully request the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Jersey to re-affirm and enter the above resolutions and preamble upon the books of the Grand Lodge.

ATTEST. JOHN H. LANDELL,
Sec'y St. John's Lodge, No. 1.

Bro. Past Master Luther Goble was appointed to carry the within to the Grand Lodge, but circumstances having occurred which prevented Bro. Goble from attending and performing that duty, Past Grand Master J. B. Munn has been requested by Bro. Goble to act for him.

J. H. LANDELL, *Sec'y.*

After holding an election, the tellers reported the following duly elected officers for the current year:

M. W. Edward Stewart, of No. 7, Grand Master.
R. W. Thomas W. Mulford, of No. 15, Deputy Grand Master.
" " Jacob W. Morris, of No. 9, Senior Grand Warden.
" " John Dill, of No. 13, Junior Grand Warden.
" " Joseph H. Hough, of No. 5, Grand Secretary.
" " Milton Baldwin, of No. 7, Deputy Grand Secretary.
" " Elias Phillips, of No. 5, Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Lodge was called off for the space of one hour.

At the appointed time the Grand Lodge was called on.

Bro's Britton Hoffman, of Trenton Lodge, No. 5, and Joseph E. Potts and James Mills, of Brearley Lodge, No. 2, were received.

The Committee on the Grand Master's address presented the following:

The committee appointed on the Most Worshipful Grand Master's address ask leave to report—

That the Lodges therein named, acting under dispensation of conforming to our rules, have warrants severally issued in their favor.

That the request of Rockaway Lodge, No. 20, respecting the change of their location to Dover, alternately with Rockaway, be granted.

And that Tuckerton Lodge, No. 4, have leave to alter the location of their Lodge as suits them best, in the village where it is now held.

We report also, with much satisfaction, that upon noticing the services of the Grand Master during the past year, in writing and lecturing to such Subordinate Lodges as it has been in his power to visit, we feel assured, from the reports from the Lodges he has visited, that he has infused a new spirit of improvement among the Craft, greatly to their comfort.

J. B. Munn,
Isaac P. Brown.

It was on motion *Ordered*, That the report be accepted and adopted.

On motion, that the salary of the Grand Secretary be one hundred dollars per annum for the future; lost.

On motion, that the salary of the Grand Secretary be seventy-five dollars per annum for the future; also lost.

It was on motion *Ordered*, That the Grand Secretary be requested to procure a suitable book to record the names of all persons who belong to

the several Subordinate Lodges, or may hereafter belong or be initiated therein; also all removals, by suspension or otherwise.

The Grand Secretary presented the following report:

The Grand Secretary would respectfully beg leave to submit the following report of the moneys received by him since the last Annual Communication, as follows:

Cash received for three Grand Lodge certificates				$9 00
St. John's	"	No. 1		21 25
Brearley	"	" 2		13 75
Cincinnati	"	" 3		15 75
Tuckerton	"	" 4		3 50
Trenton	"	" 5		6 50
Newark	"	" 7		14 00
Washington	"	" 9	$7 00	
Grand Lodge certificate,			3 00	
				10 00
Franklin Lodge, No. 10, (2 years)				8 50
Union " " 11,				14 50
Warren " " 13, (2 years)				39 00
Mt. Holly " " 14,				12 50
Camden " " 15,				5 00
Union " " 19, (at New Brunswick)				7 50
Amwell " " 12,				5 00
				$185 75

All which is respectfully submitted.

JOS. H. HOUGH, *G. Secretary.*

Trenton, January 14th, 1852.

It was on motion *Ordered,* That the foregoing report be spread on the minutes.

The Grand Officers present were duly installed by Past Grand Master Joseph W. Scott, and those absent by proxy.

The following bills were presented, and on motion ordered to be paid:

Edward Stewart	$17 00
Ichabod Harrison	9 00
Jeptha B. Munn	12 00
Samuel Harris (publishing notice in Bridgeton Chronicle)	1 00
Charles Scott	9 56
True American (publishing notice of meeting)	3 00
Grand Secretary's salary $50, postage $2 46	52 46
Phillips & Boswell, printing minutes, certificates, &c	54 00
Amos Howell, Grand Tyler, services	2 00
	$160 02

It was on motion of Past Master Samuel Lilly *Ordered*, That the sum of —— be paid to the Grand Secretary for his extra services in recording the names of the members of Subordinate Lodges, in accordance with a resolution heretofore passed.

The Chair appointed Bro's John Whitehead, Joseph H. Hough and Samuel Read the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the ensuing year.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the past year were continued.

The minutes of this meeting were read over, and on motion approved.

The following resolution was presented by Past Master Isaac P. Brown, and, on motion of Past Master Samuel Read, ordered that it be adopted.

Resolved, That a proper jewel, suitable to the rank and station of a Past Grand Master, be and is hereby ordered to be procured and presented to Past Grand Masters Jeptha B. Munn and Joseph W. Scott, as a small token of gratitude and respect for their invaluable services for the past and present; and that the Most Worshipful Grand Master be appointed to obtain said jewels, the cost not to exceed twenty-five dollars each; and when procured to draw upon the Grand Treasurer for the amount, and be presented at our next annual meeting.

The Grand Master, Grand and Deputy Grand Secretaries, were ordered to have a suitable number of these minutes printed.

On motion of James W. Cassedy, that the officers of the several Lodges, with the time and place of meeting, be published with these proceedings, was disagreed to.

The Grand Master made the following appointments:

Rev. & W. Harry Finch, No. 9, Grand Chaplain.
W. Samuel Lilly, No. 12, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. Joseph Dalrimple, No. 3, Junior Grand Deacon.
W. Charles E. Stewart, No. 1, Grand Marshal.
W. Samuel Kay, No. 5, Grand Steward.
W. John Linn, No. 13, Grand Steward.
W. Matthew Miller, jun., No. 15, Grand Swordbearer.
W. John R. Weeks, No. 1, Grand Pursuivant.
W. Amos Howell, No. 5, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge then closed in harmony and due form, to meet again on the second Wednesday in January next, at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Trenton, unless sooner convened by the proper authority.

JOS. H. HOUGH, *G. Secretary.*

Trenton, January 14th, 5852.

JUNE SESSION, 1852.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey met at the Hall of St. John's Lodge, Newark, June 23d, A. L. 5852, at ten o'clock, A. M., pursuant to the call of the Grand Master, there being

PRESENT,

M. W. EDWARD STEWART, Grand Master.
R. W. JACOB W. MORRIS, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. T. R. VARICK, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. GEORGE A. TITTLE, Grand Secretary, p. t.
R. W. ELIAS PHILLIPS, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. JAS. A. ALEXANDER, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
R. W. WILLIAM S. TAY, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
R. W. WILLIAM GODBER, Grand Tyler, p. t.

MEMBERS.—Past Grand Masters Jeptha B. Munn and John S. Darcy, St. John's Lodge, No. 1: Joseph Munn, No. —.

VISITORS.—E. R. Cook, Thomas H. Hooper, of Hiram Lodge, No. 17; F. W. Moore, of Sutter Lodge, Cal.; Andrew Tallman, of Union Lodge, No. 11, Orange; M. P. Kerney, St. John's Lodge, No. 1; Thomas Rafferty, A. L. Wilcox, Evening Star Lodge, No. 76, West Troy: J. P. Williams, Tchuler Lodge, No. 122, Mississippi; James Silcocks, L. H. Roe, A. L. Corey, Union, No. 19, New Brunswick, N. J.; James Narine, Holland, No. 8, New York; Elias I. Thompson, Union, No. 19, New Brunswick; Simeon Simpson, P. M., Scotland.

LODGES REPRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

F. W. Ricord, W. M., St. John's, No. 1.
S. Vansickel, W. M., Trenton, No. 5.
J. C. Ogden, W. M., W. S. Tay, S. W., Newark, No. 7.
J. W. Morris, W. M., Washington, No. 9.

S. W. Harrison, W. M., Union (Orange), No. 11.

Jacob Sharp, W. M., Warren, No. 13.

A. Phillips, W. M., Samuel Read, (spl. rep.) P. M., George W. Curtis, Mount Holly, No. 14.

Theodore R. Varick, W. M., George A. Tittle, S. W., James A. Alexander, J. W., Hiram, No. 17.

George Taylor, W. M., Union (N. B.) No. 19.

Charles McFarlan, W. M., Rockaway, No. 20.

William C. Gessner, W. M., Diogenes, No. 22.

The Grand Lodge was opened in due and ancient form.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Grand Lodge were then read and approved.

An address from the Most Worshipful Grand Master was then received, and after being read by the Secretary *pro tem.*, was referred to a committee of three, viz.: Past Grand Master Jeptha B. Munn, Past Master Samuel Read and Past Master Jacob Sharp.

In accordance with the power vested in me by the By-Laws of our Fraternity, I have called this Grand Lodge together for purposes, in my view, sufficiently interesting to us all to require this meeting.

Frequent observation of the proceedings of our past annual meetings has served to convince me that our habit, at said meetings, of assembling and doing very little in the forepart of the day, except organization, and pressing our business in the after part of the day too hurriedly, so as to close our business in the evening sitting, often leaves too little time for committees to report deliberately, and other matters disposed of too hastily, so as to render it important to make a change in our mode, as to time, for the better. If two days, or even more, instead of one day, should hereafter be employed, as may be necessary at our annual meetings, one benefit might at least arise, the necessity as well as additional expense of emergent meetings would probably very rarely occur, besides the advantage of having more time to act understandingly, with a timely sober second thought, upon the different subjects presented for our consideration

I would, therefore, recommend the propriety of passing some resolution for our annual meetings hereafter to extend to two days, or more if necessary, should it meet your approbation.

In my annual communication in January, 1852, it will be recollected that I stated it as a cause of rejoicing that our former difficulties among ourselves, and in connection with a neighboring Grand Lodge relative to censure and non-intercourse with us, are now all healed, and harmony perfectly restored.

It will also be recollected that a committee was appointed at our Janu-

ary meeting in 1851, to inquire in relation to certain censures against this Grand Lodge and some of its Past Grand Masters, in the printed proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York for June, 1850, to investigate and report upon the same at the next annual meeting of this Grand Lodge.

In the mean time, it appears that the Grand Lodge of New York, at their annual June meeting in 1851, have withdrawn all the censure and blame heretofore cast upon this Grand Lodge and its accused Past Grand Masters, restoring thereby perfect harmony and friendly intercourse. Expecting that our committee, appointed to inquire and investigate as above stated, would report at our January meeting of 1852, that from the documents in their hands, that as all censure and charges heretofore made against us by the Grand Lodge of New York were withdrawn, and peace restored, any further investigation had become unnecessary on their part, I ventured to announce, as above stated, in my last annual communication, that all our past difficulties with our sister Grand Lodge were removed, and harmony perfectly restored.

It is not my intention to implicate our committee for any omission or neglect of duty, as it is probable they can explain satisfactorily why their report on the subject referred to them was not presented at our Annual Grand Lodge meeting. Another subject to which I will now call your attention, is one of deep solicitude to me—I mean the visitation, instruction, lecturing, &c., of all the Lodges under our jurisdiction, so as to bring about a more uniform system of Masonic work than now prevails. Since I have had the honor of presiding as your Grand Master, I need hardly say to those who know me best, that I have used all the efforts in my power, without very material injury to my domestic affairs, to effect an annual visitation of all our Lodges, and I regret to say I have been unable to do so, but only in part. Some Lodges have been necessarily neglected, and I fear, unless the duties of visitation are divided among the Grand Officers or otherways, must remain so. This subject is a matter of more importance to our Craft, in my estimation, than is properly understood by those who have not had the same opportunity that I have had in the visitations I have made. The want of correct lecturing and illustration is sensibly felt and acknowledged by many of our Lodges. It has been made manifest frequently in the satisfaction expressed by our brethren, whenever an opportunity has occurred, to brighten their recollections and improve them. A uniformity of mode, as far as may be, throughout the Lodges in the State who hail from us, as it respects their manner of conducting the business and labors of Craftsmen, is deemed worthy the consideration of this Grand Lodge, and I indulge the hope it will attract your attention at this time.

EDWARD STEWART, *G. Master.*

Past Grand Master J. W. Scott, in behalf of a committee, then made a report respecting certain censure against the Past Grand Masters of the State of New Jersey by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

It was moved and seconded that the report be received and the committee discharged, with the thanks of the Grand Lodge.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey.

The undersigned, a committee appointed by the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, at their annual meeting in January, A. L. 5851, ask leave to report on the subject matters referred to them in the proceedings of said Lodge, viz.:

"*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to inquire in relation to certain censures against this Grand Lodge and its Past Grand Masters (as are more fully exhibited in pages 121–5, of the printed transactions of the Grand Lodge of New York, published A. L. 5850, under the Grand Mastership of Worshipful John D. Willard and William H. Milnor, as well as anterior thereto,) and that said committee be instructed to investigate all censures of the Grand Lodge of New York against this Grand Lodge and its Past Grand Officers, and that the Grand Master is authorized to fill all vacancies that shall occur in said committee.

"Also *Resolved*, That the resolution submitted by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the year 1849, in their report, which will be found in page 441 of the printed proceeding of this Grand Lodge of May 13th, 1850, and which was then, after some debate, laid over until this meeting, be referred to the Committee on Censures on the Grand Lodge of New York," &c.

It appears further, that subsequent to the May meeting of our Grand Lodge, as above mentioned, that at the June annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, A. L. 5851, in the report of a special committee on the subject, and for reasons therein stated in pages 82 and 83, the Grand Lodge of the State of New York passed the following resolution:

"*Resolved, by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York*, That the Most Worshipful Bro's Ira Merchant, Daniel B. Bruen and William H. Earl, Past Grand Masters of New Jersey, are, by the facts of the case, freed from all blame or censure for any participation in or being present at the installation of Mr. Phillips, at the Howard House, on the 6th of June, 1849, and are exempt from all blame in relation thereto; and this Grand Lodge cordially extends to each of them its fraternal regards and their assurance of its high respect for them as Masons and men; and that all censures against them, or the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New

Jersey, in relation to this subject, are hereby recalled, as entirely undeserved and unmerited, and that we renew to that Grand Lodge the expression of our cordial respect and entire satisfaction in this matter."

And further we find and report, from page 83, of the same annual proceedings of said Grand Lodge, the following preamble and resolution:

"*Whereas*, This Grand Lodge did, on the 27th of December, 1850, form a union and take within her fold the body of worthy Masons known as the St. John's Grand Lodge:

"*And Whereas*, Bro's the Most Worshipful Past Grand Masters Darcy and Munn were the persons who installed the officers of said Lodge—therefore

"*Resolved*, That the censure and imputations which have been cast upon the Most Worshipful Past Grand Masters Darcy and Munn be withdrawn, and that the said Past Grand Masters be considered free from the blame which has been laid to their charge by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York."

Your committee are not willing to animadvert upon the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York in a style of recrimination or asperity. They desire to cultivate with that respectable Lodge the spirit of harmony and brotherly love; nevertheless they feel constrained to say that if any of the Grand Officers or Past Grand Officers of this Grand Lodge have in any respect transgressed against the established principles or ancient landmarks of our Fraternity, it is the province and right of this Grand Lodge alone to impose censure and to inflict the proper punishment. It is as much their duty as it is their right, and upon proper complaint to them they will not hesitate to act with becoming dignity and firmness. The committee peremptorily deny the right of all others to interfere with the just and lawful jurisdiction and authority of this Grand Lodge. But inasmuch as it appears, from the foregoing, that the Grand Lodge of the State of New York have, of their own motion, annulled and cancelled all of the offensive proceedings above alluded to, the committee beg leave to report—

That all further inquiry and investigation of the censures heretofore charged as above have now become inexpedient and unnecessary.

Your committee indulge the hope, then, that as all former difficulties which have heretofore subsisted between this Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of the State of New York have subsided, the most friendly Masonic intercourse being now re-established between them and their subordinate Lodges respectively, this our report may be accepted, and the committee discharged from all further action on this subject.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Dated 19th June, 1852.

(Signed.) JOHN GARSIDE,
J. W. SCOTT,
E. VAN ARSDALE.

Bro. Past Grand Master John S. Darcy was received in due and ample form, according to his rank and station.

Bro. Past Grand Master John S. Darcy made a communication announcing the death of Bro. William McFarlan, of Hanover, Morris county, also extending to the Fraternity an invitation to attend the funeral ceremonies of our late brother.

A committee was then appointed, consisting of Bros. Past Grand Masters J. B. Munn, J. S. Darcy and J. W. Scott, to report upon said communication of Past Grand Master J. S. Darcy.

A communication from Navesink Lodge, No. 21, with their delegates, was then received.

A communication from Washington Lodge, directed to the Most Worshipful Grand Master E. Stewart, respecting Harmony Lodge, was then read and received for further consideration.

A communication from William O'Neil, of Lodge No. 67, of Ireland, was then received, read, and laid upon the table.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment, to meet at 3 o'clock P. M. this day.

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3 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Craft of the Grand Lodge being called from refreshment to labor, a communication from Bro. Leon Hyneman, of Philadelphia, accompanied with a copy of "The Free Mason's Monitor," as a donation for the library of the Grand Lodge, was received, and a vote of thanks to the donor was ordered to be returned to him.

Bro. Past Master Samuel Read, for the Chairman of the Committee on the Grand Master's Address, respecting the censure of the Grand Lodge of New York, then made a report, which was read, received and committee discharged.

It was then, on motion, adopted.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Jersey:

BRETHREN—Your committee to whom the Most Worshipful Grand Master's address was referred, have examined the same, and respectfully report the following:

In reference to the subject between the Grand Lodges of New York and New Jersey, has now been settled by the report of a special committee, which has been adopted.

Your committee highly approve of a change in the mode of transacting the business of the Grand Lodge at its annual session, and hope the Grand Lodge will adhere to the suggestion of the Grand Master, in holding a two days' session, so that more time may be spent in practising and working in the ancient custom and usages of the Craft, thereby securing an entire and perfect recognition of the ancient landmarks, so that posterity may be prepared with the work, as used by our fathers from time immemorial, and specially in accordance with the constitutional provision of this Grand Lodge, found on page 9, section 11.

The subject of visitation, which the Grand Master calls your attention to, is of vital importance to the Craft in this jurisdiction, and we would further recommend to the Grand Master, in addition to the present authority vested in him, that he will appoint some one or more to visit and instruct in the Ancient Masonic work.

Fraternally submitted.

(Signed) J. B. MUNN,
SAMUEL READ,
JACOB SHARP.

The subject relative to granting a warrant to Navesink Lodge, No. 21, was then discussed.

The communication from William O'Neil was then read for a second time, and, by an unanimous vote of the Grand Lodge, was ordered to be returned to said O'Neil, which was accordingly done.

The communication from Washington Lodge was then read a second time, and, on motion, the subject was referred to the Grand Master.

Past Grand Master J. B. Munn then read a report from the committee appointed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master to attend to the communication of Past Grand Master J. S. Darcy, respecting the decease of Bro. Past Master William McFarlan: which was received and the

committee discharged, with a vote of thanks of the Grand Lodge.

A communication having been made by the Most Worshipful Past Grand Master John S. Darcy to the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, now in session, announcing in feeling terms the death of our worthy Bro. William McFarlan, of Hanover, Morris county, extending an invitation to all the Fraternity to attend the funeral on Thursday, the 24th inst., at eleven o'clock, A. M., at the late residence of our deceased friend and brother; whereupon J. B. Munn, J. S. Darcy and J. W. Scott were appointed a committee to report upon the above communication.

The committee made their report, that as many of our Masonic brethren as can be informed, and can attend, be requested to attend the funeral. And, also, that we

Resolve, That we most sincerely regret the dispensation of Providence, which has left the daughters of the deceased bereft of a kind, indulgent, and highly esteemed and only surviving parent, and his Masonic brethren of a most faithful, ever true, and virtuous member of our Fraternity.

Resolved, That a copy of these proceedings be transmitted to the surviving family of our deceased brother by our Grand Secretary.

(Signed) J. B. Munn, *Chairman.*

The last report of the Grand Treasurer was then referred to, he having returned to the Grand Lodge ten dollars more than he had received in behalf of the Grand Lodge.

On motion, by vote of the Grand Lodge, the above amount was ordered to be refunded to the Grand Treasurer.

Considerable discussion ensued respecting the ancient landmarks of Masonry, whereupon the Grand Master proceeded in instructing the members present in the true Masonic work.

The bill of William Godber, for tiling Grand Lodge this day, ($2,) was read and ordered paid.

On motion of Bro. Past Master Luther Goble, it was *Ordered,* That the Most Worshipful Grand Master withhold the warrant from Navesink Lodge, because information has been received by this Grand Lodge, at this session, of great informality as to the general requirements of the Grand Lodge by the petitioners for a warrant to locate a Lodge at Red Bank, as the warrant, ordered at the last session of this Grand Lodge, is still in possession of the Most Worshipful Grand Master—therefore it is hereby ordered by the Grand Lodge that said warrant be retained until the next Annual Communication.

On motion of Bro. James A. Alexander, that a committee of three be appointed to investigate the charges brought against Navesink Lodge, and that all the facts be brought before the Grand Lodge at its next Annual Session.

Which motion was adopted by an unanimous vote, whereupon the following committee was appointed: Most Worshipful Grand Master Edward Stewart, Past Master Samuel Read, and Bro. James A. Alexander. Past Master Samuel Read to act as chairman.

The minutes of this meeting were then read and approved.

The Grand Lodge closed in peace and harmony, at 6 o'clock 35 minutes P. M., June 23d, 1852.

GEO. A. TITTLE, *G. Sec'y pro tem.*

JANUARY SESSION, 1853.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Trenton, on Wednesday, January 12th, A. L. 5853, there being

PRESENT,

M. W. EDWARD STEWART, Grand Master.
R. W. JACOB W. MORRIS, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOHN DILL, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Grand Secretary.
R. W. ELIAS PHILLIPS, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. JAMES C. OGDEN, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
Bro. AMOS HOWELL, Grand Tyler.
R. W. WILLIAM KERWOOD, Representative of Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

Members.—Past Grand Masters Jeptha B. Munn, No. 1, Joseph W. Scott, No. —; Past Masters William Wilson, Hiram Scarborough, No. 12; James M. Cassedy, No. 15; Samuel Harris, No. 2; John R. Crock-

ett and John Garside, No. 11; Silas A. Thompson, Prospect, U. D.; Lyman Edwards, Harmony, U. D.

VISITORS.—E. R. V. Wright, No. —; William Howell, No. 20; Samuel G. Thomas and John T. Neeley, No. 12; Alfred Eagles and Alexander Eagles, No. 7; Henry Zepp, No. 81, Germantown, Pa.; Francis D. Mulford, No. 9, Philadelphia.

LODGES REPRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

Samuel Smith, proxy for Luther Goble, W. M., John H. Landell, S. W., Henry Whitenack, proxy for John A. Davenport, J. W., St. John's, No. 1.
William S. Bowen, W. M., Jeremiah H. Lupton, J. W., Brearley, No. 2.
Jabez Beers, W. M., Cincinnati, No. 3.
William K. Mason, W. M., Tuckerton, No. 4.
Not represented, Trenton, No. 5.
James C. Ogden, W. M., William S. Tay, S. W., Newark, No. 7.
Not represented, Clinton, No. 8.
" " Washington Shrewsbury, No. 9.
" " Franklin, No. 10.
Simeon Harrison, W. M., Union, at Orange, No. 11.
Not represented, Amwell, No. 12.
Jacob Sharp, W. M., Warren, No. 13.
George W. Curtis, W. M., Mount Holly, No. 14.
George House, W. M., David Duffee, S. W., Philip H. Mulford, J. W., Camden, No. 15.
Not represented, Olive Branch, No. 16.
George A. Tittle, W. M., James A. Alexander, S. W., Hiram, No. 17.
William H. Craig, W. M., Harmony, (Toms River) No. 18.
George Taylor, W. M., Union, at New Brunswick, No. 19.
Not represented, Rockaway, No. 20.
" " Navesink, No. 21.
William C. Gessner, W. M., Diogenes, No. 22.

The Grand Lodge was opened in due and ancient form.

The Throne of Grace was addressed by Past Master William Wilson.

Past Grand Master Jeptha B. Munn offered the following, which was unanimously agreed to, and referred to Past Grand Masters Jeptha B. Munn, Joseph W. Scott and Past Master William Wilson.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to draw up rules for the order of business to govern the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, after it shall be duly opened.

The Chair appointed on Secretary's and Treasurer's accounts, William S. Tay, of No. 7, John H. Landell, of No. 1, and Simeon Harrison, of No. 11.

The Grand Master presented the following address, which was referred to James C. Ogden, No. 7, J. B. Munn, No. 1, and Jacob Sharp, No. 13.

Brethren—In the interval of time which has passed since our last annual meeting in this Hall, it becomes again my duty to inform you of the occurrences which have taken place affecting the Masonic Fraternity in this State, as far forth as they have come to my knowledge.

Application has been made to me, in the requisite form, to grant a dispensation to Harmony Lodge, (formerly No. 8,) of Newton, Sussex county, which I have granted, and duly organized said Lodge to work, until it shall be the pleasure of this Grand Lodge to grant them a warrant at this time. Also I have granted a dispensation for a Lodge at Clinton, Hunterdon county, formerly Lebanon Lodge; also to Prospect Lodge, at Mendham, Morris county; and hereby recommend the Grand Lodge to give them, severally, warrants to progress in their Masonic labors.

Dispensations have been granted to the Lodges below mentioned to enter, pass and raise candidates to the sublime degree of Master Masons, as follows: four to St. John's Lodge, No. 1; four to Newark Lodge, No. 7; one to Union Lodge, No. 11; one to Mount Holly Lodge, No. 14; two to Camden Lodge, No. 15; two to Hiram Lodge, No. 17; one to Rockaway Lodge, No. 20.

My labors of visitation and lecturing Lodges, in the past year, have been the following: to St. John's Lodge, Cincinnati, Tuckerton, Trenton, Washington, Newark, Union, Mount Holly, Camden, Hiram, Harmony, Union, No. 19; and Rockaway Lodges. The report of their labors is encouraging, especially in all cases where they have had means of correct instruction.

Since the Semi-annual Grand Lodge meeting at Newark, in June last, I have felt it my duty to have two emergent Grand Lodge meetings in Newark, occasioned by a local difficulty in one of the Lodges in our vicinity, which, in consequence of the measures taken at the emergent meetings, appear to have been the means of restoring harmony thereby. The proceedings of these meetings will be handed over to the Grand Secretary, to await the future direction of this Grand Lodge.

This Grand Lodge must be aware that the duty required of the Grand Master and Grand Officers, of visiting all the Subordinate Lodges in the State once a year, has been hitherto carried out only in a very limited degree. For myself I can only say that I have performed this duty, as far as has been in my power to do, without interfering too much with my busy employment at home.

The plan pursued by some of our former Past Grand Masters, as I have been informed, was for them each to visit the Lodges once in their term of holding their appointment, if in their power to do so; and generally gave prepared addresses on these occasions to the Lodges, but did not take upon themselves the laboring oar of modifying the work of the Lodges. This branch of duty, whenever it has been performed in former times, has been done chiefly by a Grand Visitor, duly appointed, till, from causes not necessary now to name, the practice of such visitation went out of use altogether.

The committee appointed to revise our Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations, in their report at our last annual meeting, have introduced a section on this subject, which, if adopted and fully carried out as therein expressed, cannot fail, I hope, to establish a uniform system of work in all the Subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge. I indulge the hope that this uniformity of labor may soon be arranged by experienced and intelligent hands, guided by and conforming to the powers given this Grand Lodge in our Ancient Constitutions. It is expressed therein, on page 6, section 2, in these words: "to establish a uniform mode of working throughout the State, strictly adhering to the *ancient landmarks*, usages and customs of Masonry, which are on no account to be removed or defaced."

Again: this duty (as it has been recently performed among the Lodges) of visiting and lecturing, visiting singly, as heretofore, with any Grand Master you may elect, expecting him at the same time to perform it, and do equal justice to all the Subordinate Lodges in the State, I do not hesitate to affirm cannot be done without the employment of so much of his time as would be very burthensome for him to spare from home, if not in many cases wholly impracticable; add to which, the expense of such visitations, it is presumed, the Grand Lodge would not think it prudent at present for them to assume to pay, at least if a better plan is offered for your adoption, in the report of the committee I have alluded to, on this subject.

Brethren, it is cause of mutual congratulation that, so far as we are informed, our Lodges are prosperous and our numbers increasing. The principles of Free Masonry we profess to be governed by in our lives and conversation, we know to be *good*, *true* and *benevolent*, confirming, we trust, the high commendation bestowed upon our Fraternity by our illustrious Brother Washington, whose declaration we take pleasure to refer to, where he says, in answer to an address to him from a body of his brethren, "that the milder virtues of the heart are highly respected by a society whose liberal principles are founded upon the immutable laws of truth and justice, and the grand object of Masonry is to promote the happiness of the human race."

Finally, my brethren, allow me to say on this occasion, that just so

long as you evidence by your conduct these liberal principles, Masonry will prosper among us, peace, order, harmony and true friendship will prevail, and the happiness of the human race will be promoted as the consequence.

EDWARD STEWART, *G. Master.*

The Grand Lodge was called off till 2½ o'clock P. M.

2½ O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

There were present officers and representatives as before.

MEMBERS.—Samuel Harris, No. 2; Thomas A. Sterrett, No. 12.

VISITORS.—E. M. Dodd, No. 11; Henry Zepp, No. 81, Germantown, Penn.; Thomas Davidson, No. 13; Enos S. Gandy, No. 155, Philadelphia; Samuel W. Carey, late Nottingham Lodge, Md., No. 95; Joseph E. Potts, No. 2; Waters B. Miller, No. 15.

A petition in the usual form was read for a new Lodge, to be located in the North Ward of the city of Newark, and signed by Edward T. Hillyer and others, the requisite number.

It was, on motion, referred to Jacob Sharp, of No. 13, George Taylor, of No. 19, and James M. Cassedy, of No. 15.

Trenton Lodge, No. 5, was represented by Past Master Sylvester Vansickel, proxy for W. M., and Samuel Quicksall, S. W.

Past Grand Masters Jeptha B. Munn, Joseph W. Scott, and Past Master William Wilson were received in ample form, according to their rank.

The committee to whom was referred the preparation of rules, reported the following, to govern this Grand Lodge:

Which were accepted and ordered to be incorporated in their proper place, with the amendments now reported to the Grand Lodge.

STANDING RULES REGULATING THE ORDER OF BUSINESS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT YORK MASONS OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY:

1. Reading the minutes of the last Annual and Special Grand Communications.
2. Reading of the annual address and report of the Most Worshipful Grand Master.
3. Appointment of committees to examine and audit the accounts of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer.
4. Consideration of reports of committees made to the last Grand Lodge.
5. Election of officers of the Grand Lodge for the ensuing year.
6. Reports of committees.
7. Petitions.
8. Miscellaneous business.

The committee to whom was referred the irregularity of Navesink Lodge, No. 21, on the minutes of the meeting of this Grand Lodge, made the following report, which was read:

The papers accompanying the report were ordered to be read.

On motion, the report was received and committee discharged.

It was *Ordered*, That the warrant issue to Navesink Lodge, No. 21, upon their complying with the regulations of the Grand Lodge.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Jersey of Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons:

BRETHREN—The undersigned were appointed a committee, at the Semi-annual Communication of this Grand Body, in June last, in accordance with the adoption of the following order: [See minutes.]

"On motion, it was *Ordered*, That the Grand Mastsr withhold the warrant of Navesink Lodge, because information had been received by this Grand Lodge, at this session, of great informality as to the general requirements of the Grand Lodge, by the purported petitioners for a warrant to locate a Lodge at Red Bank, as the warrant ordered at the last session of this Grand Lodge is still in possession of the Grand Master; therefore,

"It is hereby *Ordered* by the Grand Lodge, that said warrant be retained until the next Annual Communication.

"On motion, that a committee of three be appointed to investigate the charges brought against Navesink Lodge, and that all facts be brought before the Grand Lodge at its next annual session; which motion was adopted by unanimous vote."

Accordingly information was forwarded to the Worshipful Master and Secretary of Washington Lodge, No. 9, Eatontown, of the time (November 22d, 1852,) when the committee would meet at their room, and requested a special Lodge to be held there, and all their members notified; also to the Secretary of Navesink Lodge, requesting him to notify all the members of that Lodge to meet the committee as above. The committee met, and had the pleasure of meeting Past Grand Master John P. Lewis, the Worshipful Master Jacob W. Morris, and a large number of members of No. 9, to whom your committee feel under obligations for their kindness and attention. We regret, however, to state that, from some cause, the Secretary of Navesink Lodge did not notify the members of that Lodge, so that, by mere accident, but one of their members (Bro. McDowell) was present. Subsequently, however, all but one of the petitioners of Navesink Lodge were seen and examined.

The following information has come to the knowledge of your committee, which, without a desire to express any opinion, is presented for the action and disposal of this Grand Lodge:

Upon an application, in proper form, dated Red Bank, October 5th, 1851, signed in the proper handwriting of John McBriar, Thomas E. Combs, John E. Norris, John R. Bergen, Jarrett Haggarty, George Finch, Matthew McDowell, George W. Stilwell, Joseph Shepherd, and Anthony H. Haggarty, recommended by resolution, passed unanimously by Washington Lodge, No. 9, and signed by J. W. Morris, Worshipful Master, and George Finch, Secretary, with seal, Most Worshipful Grand Master Edward Stewart, issued his dispensation for that purpose, dated the fourteenth day of November, eighteen hundred and fifty-one, and accordingly gave due notice to Bro. George Finch, Secretary of Navesink Lodge, of the time when he would be present, and if, upon strict examination, finding the officers elect qualified, install them in ample form; or, should anything unforseen prevent his attendance in person, he desired Past Grand Master John P. Lewis to examine as above, and, if they were qualified, to install for him. The officers were installed by Past Grand Master John P. Lewis, and Lodge set to work under the dispensation. Grand Master Stewart made full report of all his official acts to the next Annual Session of the Grand Lodge, when all was confirmed, and a warrant accordingly issued. The dispensation not being forwarded, and no fees for the warrant having been paid, the Grand Master retained the warrant until the further requirements of the Grand Lodge should be complied with. Some time after, the Grand Secretary received the dispensation (which had been in the possession of Thomas E. Combs, Worshipful Master, by the hands of John McBriar), and informed him the warrant was in possession of the Grand Master.

Grand Master Stewart also informed the Secretary, Bro. George Finch, that he had their warrant in his official keeping, and would remain there

until the requirements of the Grand Lodge should be complied with. There the whole matter rested until the Semi-annual Session, when this committee were appointed, and warrant ordered still to be retained.

It was further charged before the Grand Lodge, at its Semi-annual Session, by George Finch, that the signatures to the petition for a dispensation, at least some of them were obtained fraudulently. Your committee, however, ascertained that all the signatures to the petition for a dispensation are genuine, and in their proper handwriting, as acknowledged by all in person, except Bro. Jarrett Haggarty, who was not seen; all the other petitioners believe it to be his proper signature.

The application for withdrawal certificates from Washington Lodge, No. 9, was made by Bro. George Finch, their Secretary, some one or more of the petitioners being present, some of the others declaring that they knew nothing about the application. Upon examining those minutes of No. 9, they are found to be exceedingly vague and imperfect. They do not show that the brothers were present, or that the certificates were granted or furnished. The resolution, as accompanied the petition and adopted by the Lodge, appears there, and there is no evidence by them but that all were entitled to receive their certificates.

Some misunderstanding having occurred, the Master was informed that some of the brothers knew nothing about the application for their certificates, and subsequently, when the Secretary, Bro. Finch, handed them to him to sign, he refused to do so, until they themselves required him to do it.

Washington Lodge, No. 9, presumed the application was made in good faith, yet some of the officers and members knew the fact, that when Navesink Lodge was instituted, some of those petitioners had never received any certificate of withdrawal; and further, that Bro. George Finch, the old Secretary, was up to that time a defaulter to the old Lodge.

Your committee also ascertained that Bro. Anthony H. Haggerty, one of the petitioners, has never withdrawn from St. John's Lodge, No. 1, New York. Your committee are not aware that the installing officer knew this fact; suffice it to say, that the Lodge was instituted, officers installed, and set to work. During the time previous to the return of the dispensation, one candidate, W. H. Conover, was proposed, elected, entered, and passed to the second degree; but no other work was done after that, except an informal meeting to appoint a representative to the Grand Lodge at its last semi-annual Session, when Bro. George Finch was present, and made the charges before the Grand Lodge of fraud and gross informality.

The brothers of Navesink Lodge complain very much in consequence of several letters directed to them, relative to the location, institution and subsequent history of said Lodge, never reaching them; and from this

fact they principally attribute their ignorance in the premises, as Bros. Combs and McBriar, both, have written to the Grand Master, and he has promptly answered them.

Your committee find that pretty much the whole matter has been transacted by George Finch, and find many letters in the hands of the Grand Master relative to this Lodge, and to some of the members, which, in justice, demand an explanation. These letters and other papers are presented with this report for such examination as may be found necessary.

January 12, 5853.

(Signed) SAMUEL READ,
EDWARD STEWART,
JAMES A. ALEXANDER.

Past Grand Master Jeptha B. Munn in the chair.

The committee on the petition of sundry brothers of the North Ward, in the city of Newark, for a Lodge, made the following report, which was accepted, and committee discharged.

A motion was submitted that the petition be indefinitely postponed, but was withdrawn, on request of the mover, by permission of the Grand Lodge.

Past Master William Wilson, of No. 12, moved that so much of the resolution as discharges the committee on the last aforesaid report, be reconsidered. Not agreed to.

The question was then moved by Past Master S. Vansickel, of No. 5, that the report of the committee be adopted; which after considerable debate, was agreed to.

On motion of Past Master James M. Cassedy, of No. 15, that the warrant be withheld until the petitioners present their regular discharges from the several Lodges where they lately hailed from.

The committee appointed to take into consideration the propriety of granting a warrant for Northern Lodge, No. —, to be located at Newark, North Ward, beg leave to report—

That, after conferring with several brothers, we recommend the prayer of said petitioners be granted.

January 12, 5853.

JACOB SHARP,
GEORGE TAYLOR,
JAMES M. CASSEDY.

The committee to whom was referred the address of the Grand Master, made the following report.

On motion *Ordered*, That the report be received and committee discharged.

Past Master James M. Cassedy moved that the address be adopted.

After some remarks the questions were taken separately, as to the granting of warrants to the Lodges therein named. The first and second were unanimously agreed to, and the third taken and adopted, and finally the other subjects were adopted.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey.

We, the undersigned, your committee appointed to consider the address of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, having read said address, most respectfully beg leave to report—

1st. That in compliance with the recommendation of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, we recommend the granting of warrants to Harmony Lodge, No. 8, Newton, Sussex county, Lebanon Lodge, No. —, Clinton, Hunterdon county, and to Prospect Lodge, No. —, Mendham, Morris county, in lieu of dispensations granted in conformity with the By-Laws, by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, under which said Lodges are now working.

2d. That whereas the attainment of a uniform mode of work among the Subordinate Lodges is an end by no means to be neglected, and the present system of visiting being extremely onerous on the Grand Lodge officers, we therefore urge upon this Grand Lodge the necessity of adopting, at this session, the amendments to Article 4, Section I, bearing on this subject, recommended at your last annual session by your committee appointed for the purpose of revising the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Lodge. Should said amendments be deemed impracticable, then that some other be adopted bearing on this important subject.

3d. That on the Emergent Grand Lodge holden in the city of Newark since your Semi-annual Session in June last, your committee cannot report, inasmuch as the papers referred to in the aforesaid address are not in the possession of your committee.

Finally. That we feel peculiarly grateful to our present Most Worshipful Grand Master, for his untiring energy exhibited during the past year, in visiting the Subordinate Lodges under his jurisdiction, endeavoring to the utmost of his power, by working and lecturing, to establish a

uniformity of work, and also by his kind, courteous, and fraternal treatment of said Subordinate Lodges, thereby restoring peace and harmony where difficulties have existed.

Fraternally yours,

JAMES C. OGDEN,
J. B. MUNN,
JACOB SHARP.

Trenton, in Grand Lodge, January 12, A. L. 5853.

Past Master James M. Cassedy, of No. 15, offered the following, which on motion was adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary prepare, and have printed with the minutes of this session, a correct list of the officers and members, together with the time and place of meeting of each Subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge was called off for the space of one hour.

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8 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Nominations were made and read.

An election was then ordered, and Past Master Jabez Beers, of No. 3, was appointed judge, and George A. Tittle, of No. 17, and John H. Landell, of No. 1, tellers.

After holding an election, the following were reported as having received the highest vote, and were thereupon declared by the chair to be duly elected. Pending the above, Deputy Grand Master Thomas W. Mulford was announced, and received in ample form.

Edward Stewart, of No. 7, Grand Master.
Samuel Read, of No. 14, Deputy Grand Master.
Jacob W. Morris, of No. 9, Senior Grand Warden.
John Dill, of No. 13, Junior Grand Warden.
Joseph H. Hough, of No. 5, Grand Secretary.
Milton Baldwin, of No. 7, Deputy Grand Secretary.
Elias Phillips, of No. 5, Grand Treasurer.

Bros. Samuel Carey, late of Nottingham Lodge, No. 95, Maryland, and Britton Hoffman, of No. 5, were admitted.

Bro. James C. Ogden, of No. 7, on behalf of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of South Carolina, presented a copy of the Ahiman Rezon, published by that Grand Lodge.

On motion *Ordered*, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to the aforesaid Grand Lodge, for their valuable present, and that it be properly acknowledged.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the year past made the following report, which was received, and ordered to be printed with the minutes:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey.

Your Committee on Foreign Correspondence beg leave to present the following report:

That, during the last year, a mass of documents and pamphlets have been received by the Secretary, consisting of reports of the proceedings of most of the Grand Lodges of the United States, and communications from various sources. Particular attention to each would not be practicable or serviceable to the interests of our Fraternity.

The proceedings of the Grand Lodges in communication with this Grand Lodge, which have been submitted to your committee, number over 3000 pages. These communications contain many things of interest and profit. An alphabetical list of these proceedings, submitted to your committee, is subjoined, with their dates.

Alabama—December 1, 1851.
Arkansas—November 3, 1851.
California—November 4, 1851; May 4, and October 22, 1852.
District of Columbia—November 4 to December 27, 1851.
Connecticut—May 12, 1851.
Florida—January 12, 1852.
Georgia—October 28, 1851.
Illinois—October 6, 1851.
Indiana—May 24, 1852.
Kentucky—August 30, 1852.
Louisiana—January 20 and June 11, 1851; January 19, 1852.
Maine—May 4, 1852.
Maryland—November 17, 18, 19, 1851, and May 10, 11, 1852.
Massachusetts—December 10, 1851, and June 9, 1852.
Michigan—January 14, 1852.
Missouri—May 3, 1852.
New Hampshire—June 10 and 11, 1851, and June 8, 9, 1852.
New York—December 27, 1850, September 2, 1851, and January 4, 1852.
North Carolina—December 1, 1851.

Oregon—August 16, 1851, and June 14, 1852.

Pennsylvania—December 27, 1851.

South Carolina—February 14, June 3, September 2, October 22, December 2, 27, 1851.

Texas—January 19, 1852.

Vermont—January 13, 1852.

Virginia—December 8, 1851; January 21, 1852.

Wisconsin—June 8, 1852.

In addition to the above noted special communications, there have been received, from the following sources:

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada.

Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

Grand Lodge of the State of California, and from the Grand Lodge of France.

The most abundant evidence is given, from all these sources, that the Craft was never in more flourishing circumstances than at the present time.

The proceedings all show a very large increase of members, and corresponding increase of interest.

Your committee notice with great pleasure, that the all important subject of education is taking a deep hold upon the members of the Fraternity in many parts of the Union. For many years seminaries of learning, under the control and management of the Fraternity, have been established in some of the States, and the experience of many years has fully tested the utility and importance of such undertakings.

The Masonic Seminary established in the State of Alabama, under the care of the Fraternity in that State, is one of the finest in the land, employing some of the best talent, and educating and sending forth bright intelligence to become ornaments to the institution, and reflect honor and credit upon those who have so kindly and judiciously provided for their intellectual wants.

In the State of Arkansas, is established St. John's College, a young institution, but full of hope and enterprise.

In Kentucky, attention has been paid to this important subject, and a seminary established there, with a list of seventy scholars. In North Carolina, is founded the College of St. John, under the care of the Grand Lodge of that State; which although embarrassed in its operations at present, as are all new institutions, will eventually, it is hoped, be placed on a fair basis and result in great good.

Our brethren of Missouri are, however, entitled to the credit of being the first to engage in this laudable enterprise. For many years, a college has been established there on a broad and extensive basis, and there seems to be a determination to support the institution to the utmost of the ability of the Grand Lodge of that State. Other Grand Lodges are

moving in this matter of education, in the establishment of libraries, and the institution of colleges and seminaries. The subject of the establishment of a General Grand Lodge of the United States has been agitated among some of the Grand Lodges, and by some received with favor, being recommended by special resolution of the Grand Lodge of the State of California. Your committee, without expressing any opinion, would respectfully call the attention of this Grand Lodge to the matter, as they deem it important and deserving of deliberation.

Another subject which your committee desire to present, as having received attention in other portions of the Fraternity, is the want of uniformity in the work of the Craft. This difficulty exists to a very great extent in this State, no two Lodges scarcely working alike. To remedy this evil, some of the Grand Lodges have adopted the plan of employing a Grand Lecturer, a brother of experience and respectable standing as a Mason, whose business it has been to instruct Subordinate Lodges in the work. Your committee beg leave to suggest that your deliberations be directed to the matter, and that some means be devised, by which a more perfect system in working be obtained among our brethren in this State.

Your committee know of no other special subject arising from the communications submitted, to which to call your attention. They would, however, be unjust to their own feelings of unfeigned satisfaction and pride, with which they recur to the undeniable fact of the wonderful and almost unexampled spread of our loved Fraternity during the last year, and to the almost perfect unanimity and concord which now prevail in our borders. It is scarceiy to be expected in so extensive a brotherhood as ours, scattered over so large a surface of country, embracing so many minds and intelligences, each with their own peculiar views, but that differencess, and even strong alienations, would occur. But notwithstanding all this, your committee cannot discover any facts from the pamphlets and documents submitted to them which can at all show that any serious difficulty exists at the present time among our brethren in this country. From States which were but of yesterday, voluminous reports, tastefully prepared, are before us, presenting a state of things in those new States which are astonishing, and tend to show the strong hold which the truthful and beneficial principles of our brotherhood have upon the human heart in its sympathies and affections.

The report of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the State of Wisconsin comes to us in a pamphlet of one hundred and fifty pages, well executed, and shows a list of nearly fifty working Subordinate Lodges. The new State of California has nearly thirty working Subordinate Lodges; Florida about the same number; Illinois numbers over a hundred; Michigan, fifty; Texas, one hundred and four; Missouri, one hundred and thirty-seven; Arkansas, nearly fifty; and from the far-off Pacific, the

outmost bound of our republic, in Oregon, our Fraternity has gained a foothold, and has firmly established itself.

In conclusion, your committee beg to call your especial attention to the annexed circular address, coming from a committee of the Grand Lodge of the State of California.

A strong appeal for our aid and sympathy is presented in this communication, and we commend it to your earnest and prompt attention.

On behalf of the committee,

JOHN WHITEHEAD, *Chairman.*

The committee on Secretary and Treasurer's accounts made the following report;

Which was, on motion, received, and committee discharged:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Jersey:

The undersigned, your committee to audit the accounts of the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary and Treasurer, would report:

Balance on hand last year	$271 34
Received from various sources this year	251 25
	$522 59
Paid out, as per vouchers	210 02
Leaving in his hands	$325 75
Received this day, per Grand Secretary	182 17
	$495 32

Trenton, January 12, 5853.

WILLIAM S. TAY,
JOHN H. LANDELL,
SIMEON HARRISON.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, till to-morrow morning at nine o'clock.

THURSDAY MORNING, JANUARY, 13, 5853.—9 O'CLOCK, A. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to order, there being present,

M. W. J. B. Munn, Grand Master, p. t.
R. W. Jacob W. Morris, Senior Grand Warden.
" " John Dill, Junior Grand Warden.
" " Joseph H. Hough, Grand Secretary.
" " Elias Phillips, Grand Treasurer.
" " James C. Ogden, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
" " Jabez Beers, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
Bro. Amos Howell, Grand Tyler.
William Kerwood, Representative of Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

LODGES REPRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

John H. Landell, S. W., Henry Whitenack, proxy for J. A. Davenport, J. W., St. John's, No. 1.
William S. Bowen, W. M., Jeremiah H. Lupton, J. W., Brearley, No. 2.
Jabez Beers, W. M., Cincinnati, No. 3.
Not represented, Tuckerton, No. 4.
" " Trenton, No. 5.
James C. Ogden, W. M., William S. Tay, S. W., Newark, No. 7.
Not represented, Clinton, No. 8.
" " Washington Shrewsbury, No. 9.
" " Franklin, No. 10.
Simeon Harrison, W. M., Union (Orange), No. 11.
Not represented, Amwell, No. 12.
Jacob Sharp, W. M., Warren, No. 13.
George W. Curtis, W. M., Mount Holly, No. 14.
George House, W. M., Camden, No. 15.
Not represented, Olive Branch, No. 16.
James A. Alexander, S. W., Hiram, No. 17.
William H. Craig, W. M., Harmony, No. 18.
George Taylor, W. M., Union (New Brunswick) No. 19.
Not represented, Rockaway, No. 20.
John McBriar, S. W., Navesink, No. 21.
William C. Gessner, W. M., Diogenes, No. 22.
Lyman Edwards, W. M., Harmony (Newton), U. D.
Not represented, Prospect, U. D.

MEMBERS.—Past Grand Master Joseph W. Scott, No. —; William Wilson, No. 12; E. Stewart, Grand Master, No. 7; John Manners, No. 6; Thomas A. Sterritt, No. —; Joseph Munn, No. —.

Past Grand Master Joseph W. Scott in the chair, who installed the officers elect, as follows:

Past Grand Master Jeptha B. Munn was installed as proxy for Edward Stewart, Grand Master.

George W. Curtis, of No. 14, was installed as proxy for Samuel Read, Deputy Grand Master.

Jacob W. Morris was installed as Senior Grand Warden, in person.

John Dill, was installed as Junior Grand Warden, in person.

Joseph H. Hough was installed as Grand Secretary, in person.

James C. Ogden, of No. 7, was installed as proxy for Milton Baldwin, as Deputy Grand Secretary, and

Elias Phillips was installed as Grand Treasurer, in person.

Past Master William Kerwood offered the following resolution, which was read, and ordered to be laid over till the next annual session:

Resolved, That one Representative from each of the Subordinate Lodges in this State shall receive from the funds of this Grand Lodge —— cents, for each ten miles travel, going to and returning from the Grand Lodge, at the annual meeting in January, and also $—— per day for attendance.

Deputy Grand Master Samuel Read entered, and was received in ample form.

The Grand Master presented the matter of Harmony Lodge, No. 18, at Toms River, which were severally read, that James Gulick, the Master, as mentioned in their warrant, being an expelled Mason from New Vienna Lodge, No. 160, of the State of Ohio, had imposed himself upon us, information having just been received to that effect, official from the aforesaid Lodge.

It was on motion *Ordered*, That the officers of Harmony Lodge, No. 18 have liberty to surrender their warrant.

Which was surrendered by the Grand Master.

It was further *Ordered*, That a new warrant issue to said Harmony Lodge, No. 18, at Toms River, to be filled up with the names of the present elective officers.

It was further *Ordered*, That two years' dues be remitted.

It was further *Ordered*, That said Lodge be instructed to try William Gulick, now a member of said Lodge.

The chair called the attention of the Grand Lodge to the amendments to the By-Laws on the 128th and 129th pages of the printed journal of last meeting [pages 473 and 474 of this volume], as laid over to this for consideration, were taken up.

The question was presented for construction, what the words in Sec. 2, Constitution, "all Past Grand officers," meant. After some debate,

Deputy Grand Master Samuel Read offered the following, which was agreed to:

Resolved, That the words, in Section 2, Constitution, "all Past Grand Officers," be so construed as to mean that they are members of the Grand Lodge, and entitled to all their privileges, whether members of a subordinate or not.

The proposition to amend Article 4, section 1, (see page 474 of this volume) was called up, and after some slight alteration was adopted.

The following resolution was reâd, and, on motion of Bro. John H. Landell, of No. 1, was ordered to be laid on the table.

It having been currently reported and generally believed that the members of Diogenes Lodge, No. 22, of the city of Newark, are or have been in the habit of exchanging visits with Pythagoras Lodge, of the city of New York, and it being generally admitted that Pythagoras Lodge is now working under a warrant from the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, and is considered in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New York to be a clandestine Lodge; therefore,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed by this Grand Lodge to inquire into the standing of Pythagoras Lodge, of New York city, and, if found to be a clandestine Lodge, to ascertain if Diogenes Lodge, No. 22, have visited that Lodge or received members of that Lodge to their meetings, and said committee to make their report to the Grand Master as soon as convenient.

The Grand Lodge was then called off till 2½ o'clock.

2½ O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Past Grand Master Jeptha B. Munn in the chair, and same officers as this morning; also a sufficient representation from Subordinate Lodges.

MEMBERS.—Past Grand Master Joseph W. Scott, No. —; Joseph Munn, No. —.

VISITOR.—Francis D. Mulford, No. 9, Philadelphia.

The resolution offered by Bro. John H. Landell, at the close of the morning session, was called up and again read.

On motion, it was agreed to, and referred to Bros. Past Master Luther Goble, No. 1, Past Master Milton Baldwin, No. 7, and James A. Alexander, No. 17.

Bro. James C. Ogden, of No. 7, offered the following resolution, which was, on motion, agreed to, and referred to Grand Master Edward Stewart and James C. Ogden, of No. 7, and John H. Landell, of No. 1:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to procure suitable aprons and collars for the Grand Officers, and also a jewel for the Deputy Grand Secretary.

It was, on motion, *Ordered,* That the Grand Secretary be authorized to procure all books, certificates, blank warrants, &c., as may be wanted from time to time.

Deputy Grand Master Samuel Read offered the following, which was agreed to:

Resolved, That an appropriation of fifty dollars be and is hereby made to the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, for the services rendered the past year, he having had to perform much extra service.

Deputy Grand Master Samuel Read offered the following resolution, which was, on motion, adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be hereby authorized to have printed and distributed, such as may be necessary to the Subordinate Lodges, one thousand copies of the Constitution, By-Laws, and General Regulations of this Grand Lodge.

Bro. John H. Landell offered the following:

Resolved, That the next annual meeting of this Grand Lodge be held in St. John's Lodge Room in the city of Newark.

Deputy Grand Master Samuel Read moved to amend by striking out "St. John's Lodge Room, in Newark." and inserting "Camden Lodge Room, at Camden."

The question on the amendment was taken and carried.

The question on the original, as amended, was then taken and disagreed to.

The Grand Master was ordered, in accordance with the resolution on page 481, to procure and to be presented to Past Grand Masters Jeptha B. Munn and Joseph W. Scott, a jewel to each, suitable to their distinguished rank and station.

Deputy Grand Master Samuel Read, after appropriate remarks, presented said jewels; which were received by them with feelings of deep emotion and gratitude.

The following bills were severally read and ordered paid:

Jacob W. Morris	$29 75
James A. Alexander	8 00
Samuel Harris	2 50
Joseph H. Hough	56 77
Amos Howell	4 00
Morris R. Hamilton	2 25
Sherman & Harron	3 00
Phillips & Boswell	20 00
Elias Phillips	4 00
Charles Scott	2 28
John Dill	18 00
Edward Stewart (balance),	71 00
Newark Daily	6 00
William Godber, Tyler, (June meeting)	2 00
	$229 55

It was on motion *Ordered*, That the sum of twenty dollars be paid, each, for services rendered by Bro's Past Grand Masters J. B. Munn and J. W. Scott, on the call of the Grand Master.

On motion *Ordered*, That Section 11, Article 1, be carried into effect, and that the word "treasurer," in the fourth and fifth lines, be stricken out, and the word "secretary" be inserted therein.

On motion *Ordered*, That Harmony Lodge, No. 23, at Newton, pay three years' dues on the applicants, and the Grand Secretary his fee for the warrant.

On motion *Ordered*, That Lebanon Lodge, No. 6, at Clinton, pay three years' dues on the applicants.

A communication to the Grand Master, from the Grand Lodge of California, requesting aid, it was, on motion of Past Grand Master J. B. Munn, of No. 1, that the Grand Secretary print a circular and send to the Subordinate Lodges, requesting them to remit for the aid of the Grand Lodge of California.

Pending which, Bro. John H. Landell, of No. 1, moved that the sum of fifty dollars be appropriated to aid our brethren in California; which was agreed to.

The Grand Master appointed Joseph H. Hough, of No. 5, John Whitehead, of No. 1, and Samuel Lilly, of No. 12, the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the present year.

The minutes of this meeting were read, and, on motion, approved.

The Grand Master made the following appointments:

Rev. and W. Austin Craig, of No. 3, Grand Chaplain.
W. James C. Ogden, of No. 7, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. John M. Condit, of No. 11, Junior Grand Deacon.
W. Charles E. Stewart, of No. 1, Grand Marshal.
W. Anthony Phillips, of No. 14, Grand Steward.
W. John Linn, of No. 13, Grand Steward.
W. Matthew Miller, jun., of No. 15, Grand Swordbearer.
W. Samuel Quicksall, of No. 5, Grand Pursuivant.
Bro. Amos Howell, of No. 5, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge then closed in harmony and due form, to meet again on the second Wednesday in January next, at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Trenton, unless sooner convened by the proper authority.

JOSEPH H. HOUGH, *G. Secretary.*

Trenton, January 13, 5853.

Abstract of Lodge returns—number of new and old members—moneys received, and what for, the past year.

LODGES.	No.	New Mem.	Old Mem.	Total.	Warrant Fee.		Certificates.	Dues paid.	Total.
St. John's	1	15	68	83			$9 00	$24 50	
Brearley	2	10	42	52				15 50	
Cincinnati	3	10	39	49			3 00	14 75	
Tuckerton	4	1	18	19				5 00	
Trenton	5		27	27				6 75	
Lebanon†	6								
Newark	7	13	49	60			3 00	18 25	
Clinton	8	1	5	6				4 25‡	
Washington	9	3	27	30			3 00	8 25	
Franklin	10		10	10				2 50	
Union	11	15	46	61				19 00	
Amwell†	12								
Warren	13	9	50	59				17 00	
Mount Holly	14	8	30	38				11 50	
Camden	15	13	22	35				12 00	
Olive Branch†	16								
Hiram	17	16	51	67		$18 25*	21 50	20 75	
Harmony	18		16	16				8 00	
Union (N. B.)	19	5	24	29				8 50	
Rockaway†	20								
Navesink†	21								
Diogenes	22	7	6	13	$25 00			5 00	
		126	528	654	$25 00	$18 25	$39 50	$201 50	$284 25

* Dues for 5850. † No return. ‡ 3 years.

JANUARY SESSION, 1854.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Trenton, on Wednesday and Thursday, January 11th and 12th, A. L. 5854, there were

PRESENT,

M. W. EDWARD STEWART, Grand Master.
R. W. SAMUEL READ, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. JACOB W. MORRIS, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOHN DILL, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Grand Secretary.
R. W. MILTON BALDWIN, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. ELIAS PHILLIPS, Grand Treasurer.
Rev. and W. AUSTIN CRAIG, Grand Chaplain.
W. JACOB SHARP, Grand Senior Deacon, p. t.
Bro. AMOS HOWELL, Grand Tyler.

MEMBERS.—Past Grand Master Joseph W. Scott, No. 19; Past Masters William Kerwood, No. 5; William Wilson, No. 12; Joseph Dalrymple, No. 3; Theodore R. Varick and George A Tittle, No. 17; Samuel Laird, late No. 16.

VISITORS.—John C. Rafferty and E. R. Hall, No. 8; William Eccles, No. 5; Samuel Kemble, No. 15; Edmund Perry, No. 13; J. H. Lupton, No. 2; Isaac Van Wagoner and F. S. Weller, Joppa, U. D.; E. A. Arnold, Hiram, No. 1, Connecticut; A. W. Goff, National, No. 209, New York; Charles Hand, Montgomery, No, 19, Pennsylvania.

LODGES REPRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

John R. Chapin, W. M., A. C. Beam, S. W., and Charles H. Pierson, J. W., St. John's, No. 1.
Harmon Kruze, S. W., Brearley, No. 2.
Not represented, Cincinnati, No. 3.
Joseph P. Adams, S. W., Tuckerton, No. 4.
S. Quicksall, S. W., A. Dutcher, J. W., Trenton, No. 5.
Not represented, Lebanon, No. 6.
James C. Ogden, W. M., Newark, No. 7.
Not represented, Clinton, No. 8.
George A. Tator, W. M., Washington, No. 9.
Allen Osborn, proxy for W. M., Franklin No. 10.

David I. Northrop, J. W., Jotham H. Condit, S. W., Union, No. 11.
Ingham Coryell, W. M., Charles A. Skillman, S. W., Amwell, No. 12.
Jacob Sharp, P. M., Warren, No. 13.
George W. Curtis, W. M., Mount Holly, No. 14.
Not represented, Camden, No. 15.
" " Olive Branch, No. 16.
Chauncey Dygert, J. W., Hiram, No. 17.
Thomas Hooper, J. W., Harmony, No. 18.
Aaron K. Cory, J. W., Union (N. B.), No. 19.
Not represented, Rockaway, No. 20.
" " Navesink, No. 21.
William Leibe, W. M., Diogenes, No. 22.
John Hunt, W. M., Harmony, No. 23.
Silas A. Thompson, W. M., Prospect No. 24.
D. W. Morris, W. M., Levi H. Sanford, S. W., Joseph Booth, J. W., Northern, No. 25.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge was opened in due and ample form.

The Throne of Grace was addressed by the Grand Chaplain.

The minutes of the last annual meeting were read.

The following brothers were admitted: J. B. Jolly, No. 20, Edmund Hance, No. 14, William C. Guessner, P. M., No. 22.

Past Grand Master D. B. Bruen and Past Deputy Grand Master John Garside were received in due and ample form.

The Chair appointed the following committee on Secretary's and Treasurer's accounts: C. H. Pierson, No. 1, L. Sanford, No. 25, G. W. Curtis, No. 14.

The following address of the Grand Master was read, and, on motion, was referred to the following committee: Deputy Grand Master Samuel Read, No. 14, John R. Crockett, No. 25, and John R. Chapin, No. 1.

Brethren—Once more we have been permitted to meet together as a Grand Lodge, and to congratulate each other on the happy and prosperous condition of our ancient and honorable institution, and have an opportunity to thank the great Architect of the Universe, the Giver of all good and perfect gifts, for the many favors we have received at His hands during the past year, and to pray for a continuance of that protection

during the year that is before us, and in carrying forward the great aims we have in view.

I will now give you a brief retrospect of my labors during the past Masonic year:

Applications have been made to me, in requisite form, to grant dispensations to resuscitate Jerusalem Lodge, No. 40, of Plainfield, Essex county, and La Fayette Lodge, formerly No. 49, of Rahway, Middlesex county, and to organize a new Lodge, to be called Mount Moriah, of Bordentown, Burlington county, and one to be called Joppa Lodge, at Paterson, Passaic county, all of which I have duly organized and set at work. They are returnable to the Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, and subject to its action. I would, therefore, recommend that the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge grant them, separately, warrants to pursue their Masonic labors as regular Lodges.

I have granted dispensations to the following named Lodges, to enter, pass, and raise to the sublime degree of Master Mason candidates at one and the same communication, viz. to St. John's, No. 1, Newark, No. 7, Amwell, No. 12, Union, No. 11, Camden, No. 15, and Hiram, No. 17.

I have visited, during the year, St. John's Lodge, No. 1, of Newark; Union, No. 11, of Orange; Newark, No. 7, of Newark; Hiram, No. 17, of Jersey City; Diogenes, No. 22, of Newark; Franklin, No. 10, of Camptown; Northern, No. 25, of Newark; Cincinnati, No. 3, of Morristown; Prospect, No. 24, of Mendham; Camden, No. 15, of Camden; Rockaway, No. 20, of Dover; Union, No. 19, of New Brunswick; Harmony, No. 23, of Newton; Amwell, No. 12, of Lambertville; Jerusalem, No. —, of Plainfield; La Fayette, No. —, of Rahway; Navesink, No. —, of Red Bank; Mount Moriah, No. —, of Bordentown, and Joppa, No. —, of Paterson, all of which I have found in a flourishing and prosperous condition, peace and harmony prevailing with the brethren throughout; and I regret exceedingly that circumstances beyond my control have prevented my visiting all the Lodges under our jurisdiction, as I intended to have done, before this Communication.

From a review of such returns as have been received at this Communication for the past year, there has been —— initiations added to our previous number of members, which, added to the amount reported in one of my annual communications, makes —— of our Fraternity, not taking in the account a considerable number, who, from age, infirmity, or at inconvenient distances from Lodges, are not enrolled as members of Subordinate Lodges.

This, when taken into consideration that we belong to one of the smallest States of the Union in population and extent of territory, affords a very encouraging prospect of the gradual progress of our benevolent and time honored institution.

Whilst every year gives us an increase of new members to our Lodges,

I hope and trust, for the honor and credit of our Ancient Craft, that due caution is observed in receiving all applicants who are to partake in the benefits to be derived in our Fraternity. Guard well the doors of your Lodges, and see that none enter but such as are truly qualified to receive our honors by having a well reported good moral character in society, free from all stain of just censure—honest and true. If such, and such only, present themselves, and are admitted, it is reasonable to expect you will have not only good members, but intelligent and bright Masons—a credit to us, an honor to themselves, entitled also to the favorable opinion of many out of our bounds, who are or may be doubtful, from what they have seen of us, of the utility of our institution in benefiting moral character, as well as aiding the well-being of our common country.

A brief view of the origin and progress of our Institution may, perhaps, be instructive at this time. The history of Ancient Craft Masonry shows, from the progress in the useful arts, of science, of geometry, of architecture, associated in companies and Lodges at an early day, its first great aim was brotherhood, by hemming in all useful arts and knowledge within the boundary of survey among themselves, to the builders of architectural structures of art, the pyramids, the cities, and the temples of the old world, even to the building and completion of Solomon's temple at Jerusalem, the greatest work of art, beauty, and skill of ancient and modern times, the world has ever yet known.

Ancient Craft Masonry, pressing onward in its course, made its progress successfully during the continuance and fall of the Roman empire: subsequently it was obscured and suspended in the dark ages of the world, yet as nations rose by degrees in the scale of civilization, Ancient Craft Masonry rose also, and was patronized by the monarchs and nobles of high rank in Europe, employed as the builders of castles, churches, and other splendid structures of architecture.

In the reign of Athelstane, king of England, A. D. 936, prince Edward, his brother, procured from him the first royal charter for a Lodge of Free Ancient York Masons, and congregated the first Grand Lodge at York under the same, and was the first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England which history exhibits, and then and there, at the meeting of the Grand Lodge, we have the first record (now printed) of the Constitution framed for the government of the Craft.

Ancient history was preserved in the olden time on the *papyrus* and on parchment, all in the written form, until the art of printing was discovered, A. D. 1430, except so far forth as we allege that many most important matters have been handed down to us by tradition. At what particular period Ancient Craft Masonry changed its character from operative to moral, speculative as it is called, we have no printed records to prove the exact date, but venture to assume that gradually from the time European kings and nobles (who could not have been operators or

laboring men) united with the Craft, patronizing them, became their rulers, Masters, or Grand Masters, that then the time begun. But certainly the working tools and the principles of the Ancient Craft have descended to us, are now used as our emblems, indicative (by our traditional usages) of moral and social virtues, as well as religions.

It is the proper business of Lodges to teach, and of the brethren to learn, the import of our emblems, signals, and usages: they form altogether a code of principles, which, if lived up to, cannot fail to make us better men. We exemplify our principles in the proceedings of our Lodges, known also with us as written landmarks, and have a universal language to recognize one another in all nations,—we have an explanation of our emblems and charges even in our printed books, and may be known to all who choose to read them. We are bound to study and know them ourselves; we explain them in our lectures, so that these principles made impressive on the mind, serve a valuable purpose as rules of our conduct, not only among the Fraternity, but among men. We are bound by their Masonic teachings, being, as we believe, in accordance with truth and the duties we owe to ourselves and society at large. We have, as you all know, certain forms and ceremonies in our Lodges, which, looked at merely as forms, may be deemed by the uninformed as unimportant and useless. All societies have their forms, (it belongs to the nature of associations), and are various as circumstances require. Our forms have their peculiar meaning, some are indications of a binding character, and have their full force as such,—but all, more or less, with us are emblems of principles we hold dear, and profess to be governed by in our lives and conversations.

We are lovers of order, and no bodies of men in their assemblages preserve such perfect order and decorum as will be found in well governed Lodges.

True to their principles, true to the common charity which, I trust, abounds with us more than in all other societies, we have more forbearance for one another's frailties, and are cemented together by the bonds of a purer and more enduring friendship than will be found in any other association.

Shall we progress and prosper? Just so far as we live up to the cardinal principles of our Fraternity, just so far as we abide in charity, virtue, and all good, will be our measure of success.

And now, my *brethren*, having had the honor of holding various offices in the gift of this Grand Lodge within the last few years, and four times honored with an election as your Grand Master, now being about to retire from the labors and responsible duties with which you have been pleased to invest me, I should do injustice to my own feelings did I not improve this opportunity to tender to each and all of you my sincere thanks for the unmerited honors you have from time to time conferred upon me.

And now, in closing with you my relation as Grand Master, permit me to express the wish that each and all of you, while members of this earthly tabernacle, may so erect your temporal building as to fit you for that spiritual building not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

EDWARD STEWART, *G. Master.*

The Grand Lodge was called off till 2 o'clock P. M.

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2 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Officers and Lodge representation as in the morning session.

VISITORS —Isaac Van Wagoner and Frederick S. Weller, Joppa, U, D.; John R. Young, No. 12; William Kerwood, No. 5; Jeremiah H. Lupton, No. 2; J. B. Jolly, S. W., No. 20; E. Hall, No. 8; Samuel Kemble, No. 15; James W. Allen, S. W., Mount Moriah, U. D.

The Commitiee on Foreign Correspondence made the following report, which was read, and, on motion, received and ordered to be filed.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey.

The committee to whom was referred the Foreign Correspondence for the year just closed, would respectfully submit the following:

In reading the published proceedings and pamphlets, together with the circular letters received, we find conclusively that the Masonic Institution is largely on the increase in numbers and usefulness. The proceedings cover four thousand five hundred pages of closely printed matter, from every State in the Union and the Canadas, the greater part filled with local matter; yet a vast amount of Masonic intelligence is spread before the reader, which richly repays perusal. A great many questions of interest are ably discussed therein, which are not of sufficient general importance to warrant us in spreading before you at this time, as they would of necessity occupy a great deal of time and space, which we will not at this time take up; therefore our report will only glance over the whole in a summary way.

The subject of education at this time seems to occupy the attention of several State Grand Lodges, and various plans are suggested as will be supposed to produce the most amount of good according to the means at hand. The Grand Lodge of Alabama gives the report of their committee on "the propriety of establishing" a Male College under their supervision, and the most feasible scheme to carry out the enterprise, submitted a

report, wherein the subject is ably set forth at length, and concludes as follows:

"The question is asked, shall the Grand Lodge do nothing in this age of progress to advance the cause of education? We answer, not as the parental or fiscal agent of a large institution, but let her encourage the Subordinate Lodges to seek out and educate the destitute orphans of Master Masons in their respective jurisdictions, as far as they can; and we venture the assertion, that when the brethren are brought to appreciate fully the relationship they sustain to the indigent orphan of deceased Master Masons, there will not be found in the broad domain of Alabama one who will grow to mature age without a good common education. The Grand Lodge of Arkansas moves *square* up to the work, as will be seen by the report of the secretary of the board of trustees. They have purchased a suitable site for locating the necessary buildings, 'a beautiful location for the college, lying immediately east of and fronting on a northern line with the Arsenal grounds, embracing one hundred acres, upon the northwest corner of which is a handsome framed dwelling, that may be used as a residence for one of the professors.' * * * 'After the board selected and purchased, they appointed a building committee to improve the grounds, select the particular spot on the grounds for situating the buildings, adopting a suitable plan and specifications for buildings, and to employ, if deemed expedient, a competent architect to superintend and carry on the work necessary to be done,' &c. The treasurer of said college reports, on the 1st of November, 1852, the sum of twelve thousand and sixty-one dollars received for subscriptions, and a cash balance of six hundred and twenty-seven dollars and twenty-five cents; which is truly a noble beginning, and we hope their efforts will be crowned with success in their enterprise.' "

The Grand Master of Tennessee, in his annual address to the Grand Lodge, says:

"Let me then, my brethren, in the relation we sustain to each other, urge upon you to sustain or adopt some system of education that will fulfill the requirements of our whole duty—some system that will reach the wants of all the poor and destitute children of Masons in our State; so that no Mason's child within our borders shall be raised in ignorance. Much good has already been accomplished by union and concert of action."

The committee to whom was referred the address before mentioned, in reference to this subject, say:

"The noble and praiseworthy sentiments expressed by the Most Worshipful Grand Master in relation to the subject of education, and particularly his laudable anxiety in reference to the poor and destitute children of Masons, meet with a hearty response in every ingenious bosom; and, so soon as our treasury shall have recovered from its present exhausted

condition, we suggest, in order to preserve an equilibrium of benefits to the indigent children of Masons all over the State, an equal distribution of funds to the Subordinate Lodges for educational purposes, by which an undue advantage may not be conferred upon one part of the Masonic community to the great detriment and expense of other parts; and until then, we think the duty and genius of our Craft impel us to extend such moral influence, and such fostering care to all institutions imploring our countenance, as can be done without jeopardizing our financial integrity."

The Grand Lodge of Iowa, at their annual meeting in June, 1852, adopted the following preamble and resolution:

"Whereas, the subject of education is one in which we feel a deep interest, and which should engage our individual attention generally;

"And whereas, it is very desirable for this Grand Lodge to build and sustain an institution of learning, so soon as the means will justify—therefore,

"*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to mature and report to this Grand Lodge, a plan for the general accumulation of a fund, by annual contribution or otherwise, for the purpose of establishing an institution of learning of a high order under the the jurisdiction and patronage of this Grand Lodge."

We make one more allusion, and extract from the report of the Grand Master of Missouri, the following, which shows the highly flourishing state of their college:

"It, however, affords me the utmost pleasure to announce to the Grand Lodge the gratifying fact, that I will be able to report the *additional* sales of scholarships to individuals and Lodges, reaching to the full amount assumed by the Grand Lodge at our last communication; thus securing *beyond cavil* a permanent endowment fund of $50,000, independent of the action of the Grand Lodge in the premises." The committee on the college say, "that the Masonic College is now established upon a firm basis, free from embarrassment, and performing the high offices for which it was established. It has imparted instruction during the past year to *one hundred and sixty-one students*, and your committee rejoice to learn that its faculty stand deservedly high, as governors and tutors, throughout the wide circle in which they are known."

Thus it will be seen how this subject has taken root, and grown into usefulness by perseverance and industry. Could not our Grand Lodge do something? At all events, efforts should be made to digest and recommend some mode for exteneing our charities. We therefore offer the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That there be a committee of three appointed to take the subject of education in charge, and to report, at the next meeting of this Grand Lodge, a plan by which a fund may be created, and how managed,

and to recommend such an institution as would be best suited to our wants."

The proposition of an organization, to be called the General Grand Lodge of the United States, seems to be pretty generally passed upon by the several Grand Lodges. Some think well of the proposition, and urge their views with a great deal of sound judgment and discrimination, and, on the other hand, it is called an experiment, a modern invention—something new, that will not meet the wishes of its friends.

In the journal of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, speaking on this subject, under the head of Maine, say, "they are still the champion advocates of a General Grand Lodge of the United States. We are still of the opinion that a Supreme Grand Lodge is not now needed, though good might result from its establishment, by tending to harmonize feeling, by supplying the feasible means of reconciling differences, and by cementing the bonds of Masonry in creating a stronger sympathy for the universal brotherhood."

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence of Vermont make this decision: "As the subject of forming a General Grand Lodge is again presented for our deliberation and action, we declare our willingness to enter a confederacy with our sister States for that purpose," and recommend suitable resolutions in accordance with those views.

The committee of the State of Mississippi hold the following significant language in reference to this subject: "No new consideration has been presented by our highly respected and intelligent brethren of Maine in support of the project which they recommend. If all the Grand Lodges in the world were included in the proposition, the argument for the establishment of a General Grand Lodge might be strengthened; for the expense and difficulties of obtaining a real representation of the several Grand Lodges would not be greatly increased, while delegates could attend from Sidney, Calcutta, and Berlin, as easily and with as little expense as they can from California and Oregon. The truth is, there would be no actual representation; but the business would be carried on by proxies—and these, perhaps, not the best qualified. The General Grand Bodies, already in existence for many years, are yet to be distinguished by their utility. We had hoped that this question was entirely at rest, and we only mentioned it out of respect to the proposer, and not to the proposition."

The Grand Lodge of Missouri pass the following resolution, which is somewhat different from any we have set forth:

"*Resolved*, That there is no *power existing* in the Grand Lodges of these United States, or any number of them, to create a Supreme or General Grand Lodge; and that, if the right exists at all, it is vested in the great *body* of *Masons* who constitute the Fraternity in these United States."

We have before us the proceedings of the "National Masonic Conven-

tion" of Delegates from the several Grand Lodges held at the city of Lexington, in the State of Kentucky, on the 17th day of September, A. L. 5853. Nathan B. Haswell, of Vermont, was chosen president, John L. Lewis, jun., of New York, and Eliphalet G. Storer, of Connecticut, were chosen secretaries. The committee appointed to take into consideration the proposition, submitted by the Grand Lodge of Maine, to form a "General Grand Lodge of the United States," presented the following report:

"That, in their opinion, it is inexpedient at this time to attempt the formation of a General Grand Lodge; but, from a free interchange of opinion among the delegates assembled, your committee believe that a proposition for a *National Confederation*, for specific objects, would meet the approbation of the several Grand Lodges of the Union. They therefore, submit the following plan therefor:

"*First.* That all matters of difficulty which may hereafter arise in any of the Grand Lodges, or between two or more Grand Bodies of the same Fraternity, which cannot by their own action be satisfactorily adjusted or disposed of, shall, if the importance of the case or the common welfare of the Fraternity demand it, be submitted, with accompanying evidence and documents, to the several Grand Lodges, in their individual capacities; and the concurrent decision thereon of two-thirds of the whole number, officially communicated, shall be held authoritative, binding, and final on all parties concerned.

"*Second.* That, from and after the adoption of the foregoing proposition by two-thirds of the several Grand Lodges, its provisions shall be considered, ratified, and all matters therein contemplated for adjustment shall then and thereafter take the course prescribed.

"*Third.* That each of the Grand Lodges be requested to adopt a resolution (if they accede to the proposed measure) pledging themselves to abide the concurrent decisions of two-thirds of the several Grand Lodges, relating to all matters submitted to their action."

And recommend, for the purpose of further maturing the plan, the several Grand Lodges send one or more delegates to a convention to be held at the city of Washington, in the District of Columbia on the first Wednesday of January, eighteen hundred and fifty-five.

Upon looking through the minutes of this Grand Lodge, we find the following resolutions were passed at a meeting held at the city of Trenton, July 6th, 5790:

"*Resolved,* That the constituting of a Federal or Supreme Grand Lodge, to have jurisdiction over the respective Grand and other Lodges throughout the continent, as proposed by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Georgia, is inexpedient, and, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, impracticable.

"*Resolved,* That, instead thereof, this Grand Lodge do agree that a

convention of Deputies from the several Grand Lodges within the United States of America be held for the purpose of forming a more particular and more intimate union, and also to establish a regular and permanent intercourse between them; that this Grand Lodge conceive such a convention would be highly advantageous to the Fraternity, and will appoint deputies for the aforesaid purpose."

And also, at the Annual Communication of January 13th, 5802, it was "*Resolved*, That the resolutions entered into by this Grand Lodge, on the 6th day of July, 5790, be adhered to."

We cannot see any good reason why it is necessary to form a Supreme Grand Body at this time, for the several Grand Lodges are certainly competent to take charge of their own internal government, as they have done from time past, and no very serious difficulties have ever happened any State Grand Lodge that requires the intervention of such a body, that they would be willing to submit any difference or difficulty that might arise.

Each one certainly feels able to legislate for themselves, and carry on their own government in their own way, for the views and customs of one section, might be brought in conflict with the other without any good result. Such a body would be expensive, without producing a corresponding benefit, and we believe the time has not yet arrived when its proposed organization is needed, and therefore offer the following:

Resolved, That we disapprove of the proposed organization of a National Confederation or Supreme Grand Lodge of the United States "for specific purposes," believing that no corresponding benefit would result from its deliberations.

The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, at its quarterly communication in September last, appointed "a committee to take into consideration what instructions should be given to the Lodges in that State, in reference to *visiting* members of Subordinate Lodges from New York," after carefully reviewing the whole state of the question given them by their resolution of appointment, present a series of resolutions, as protective measures against imposition, which we here copy:

"*Resolved*, That the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge are hereby instructed to require of all persons assuming to be Masons, and hailing from the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, who may apply at their doors for admission as *visitors* (unless known and avouched by a brother present to be as herein provided) a diploma, or certificate, under the signature and official seal of the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, of which the Most Worshipful and Hon. Reuben H. Walworth is Grand Master, certifying that the brother therein named was made a Mason in a regularly and duly constituted Lodge, which at the time of said making was working under the authority of a constitutional and lawfully organized Grand Lodge; that the said brother is now in regular

standing as a Mason; and that he is no schismatic or disturber of the harmony of the Craft, but true in his allegiance, and obedient to the laws and authority of the Grand Lodge of New York aforesaid.

"*Resolved*, That in case the person named in said diploma or certificate was made a Mason in an unlawful or irregularly formed Lodge, or under any authority which, at the time of said making, was not recognized by this Grand Lodge, then, and in that case, said diploma or certificate shall certify, under the signature and official seal of the Right Worshipful the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York aforesaid, that the brother therein named has been duly and lawfully "healed" and obligated by competent authority, and in the only form and manner sanctioned by the usages and customs of Masonry; that he is now in good and honorable repute and standing as a Mason, obedient to the laws, and acknowledging the jurisdiction and supreme authority of the only lawful Grand Lodge of the State of New York aforesaid.

"*Resolved*, That the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge are hereby strictly forbidden, under the penalty of forfeiture of charter, to receive as *visitors*, or hold Masonic intercourse with any person hailing from the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New York, who do not furnish the evidence required by the preceding resolutions of their regularity and present good standing as Masons."

In presenting the aforesaid stringent resolutions from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, we presume something of the like nature will of necessity be required to guard each Grand Lodge from imposition by the clandestine Masons hailing from the State of New York; for, on the other hand, it will be very difficult to distinguish one from another.

On the 24th of June, 5853, the Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, Joseph D. Evans, issued a circular "to the Master, Wardens and Brethren of the respective Lodges within the cities of New York, Brooklyn, and Williamsburgh," that "Keystone Lodge, No. 235, and Benevolent Lodge, No. 192, who removed to the building in Walker street, occupied by the Lodge chartered by the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, Germany," have incurred the expressed disapprobation of their Grand Lodge, surrendered their warrants, and withdrew under censure, and do not hold Masonic existence.

The said Grand Lodge elected the Hon. Reuben H. Walworth, Grand Master, and a number of persons of that body entered a protest against his installation, which, after a strict investigation of the subject and explanation, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"*Resolved*, That the explanation given by our Most Worshipful Grand Master elect, of the matter set forth in the protest against his installation, is full, complete and entirely satisfactory to this Grand Lodge, and an abundant refutation of any inferences injurious to his reputation as a man and a Mason; and that the views expressed by him, when properly

explained, add to, rather than detract from his high character, and are cordially approved by this Grand Lodge, containing, as they do, an express denial of any fact or principle in Masonry which would lead its votaries to shelter or defend moral wrong or guilt, or to disturb the peace or destroy good order in civil society."

And, on the 12th day of August, the said Deputy Grand Master of said Grand Lodge issued another circular letter "to the Master, Wardens and Brethren of the respective Lodges," and to the Fraternity generally throughout the State of New York. In consequence of the condition of affairs in that jurisdiction, certain persons who were members of Benevolent Lodge, No. 192, and Keystone Lodge, No. 235, and others, have formed an association, which they style, "St. John's Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York," chosen their officers, and installed by Past Grand Master H. C. Atwood.

Richard Thum, Grand Master.	James Stewart, Grand Tyler.
Charles G. Waterbury, D. G. Master.	Joseph F. Rose, G. Marshal.
R. Van Tassell, S. G. Warden.	John Ewing, G. Standard Bearer.
Andrew S. Fisher, J. G. Warden.	Gilbert M. Platt, G. Sword Bearer.
Charles W. Willetts, G. Secretary.	H. L. Thompson, } G. Stewards.
Robert E. Roberts, G. Treasurer.	G. L. Osborne, } G. Stewards.
James G. Kent, G. Chaplain.	John Woods, S. G. Deacon.
Thomas Abbott, G. Pursuivant.	George F. Dollinger, J. G. Deacon.

He strictly forbids all Masonic intercourse with the aforesaid Lodges;

St. John's Grand Lodge and its subordinates;

Lodges instituted by H. C. Atwood, working in the Scottish Rite;

Delta Lodge, No. 242;

Lodges meeting in Pythagoras Hall, in Walker street;

And the Grand Lodge over which Mr. Myers presides, and its subordinates, and he calls upon all true Masons within his jurisdiction to notify the Grand Master, himself, or Grand Secretary, of any violation of that EDICT.

VERMONT.—This Grand Body held its Annual Session at Burlington, on Wednesday, January 12th, A. D. 1853, with a representation from twenty-three Lodges.

The Grand Master, Philip C. Tucker, in his annual address, after refering to some matters of a local nature in his own State, carefully reviews the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of California in relation to a difficulty with Grand Master Hyam, of that State, upon the duties and powers of a Grand Master, in the vacation, of making Masons at sight. We beg leave to copy a part of his argument, as follows:

"It has certainly been a common opinion of the Craft heretofore, that Grand Masters possessed the power of making Masons at sight. The

English precedents show the practice to have existed in England, and they have been followed, in some few instances, in this country. No instance of it has occurred in Vermont, but the *right* has never been questioned in this jurisdiction. Differences of opinion have existed as to what the terms mean, and as to the extent of their operation, some writers holding that degrees thus conferred should be given in Grand Lodge only, and others that they may be given in what are termed "occasional Lodges." Desirable as it is that greater uniformity of opinion should exist on this subject, we may hardly anticipate soon attaining it among our thirty-two Grand Lodges. The doubt about the construction of the rule ought to have a favorable operation in inducing a charitable consideration for those who may be supposed to have fallen into error in acting upon it. It is probable that Grand Master Hyam may, in one or two instances, have erred in judgment on this subject, and exceeded any known precedents. I am familiar with no precedent which goes so far as to establish the correctness of making a Mason at sight by the Grand Master who is known to have been rejected by a secular Lodge, nor am I aware of any case, except those now under consideration, where such an application has been made to a Grand Master at all. If the right to make Masons at sight be acknowledged to exist in the Grand Master, it is difficult for me to understand who; but he may properly judge of the circumstances under which it may be exercised. It has been intimated in a high Masonic quarter, where I understand the existence of the right itself to be denied, that the leading English precedents were founded upon reasons of State. If such reasons constitute the only apology for the practice, it would follow, doubtless, that it never ought to have existed in this country, because those reasons never could gain tolerance here. Such has not, however been the common understanding on the subject.

"Whether Grand Master Hyam erred or not, what estimate is to be placed upon the character of the proceedings against him. A common Master of a Subordinate Lodge is generally admitted to be so supreme that his judgment cannot be appealed from, even upon a simple question of order, and it is beyond controversy that such a matter cannot be tried by his Lodge while he remains in office. A Grand Master of a Grand Lodge, if these California proceedings against G. M. Hyam are to be justified, is a far less important personage. He may have his motives questioned, his actions censured, and his character traduced by a Subordinate Lodge behind his back; his subordinate Grand Officer may *order* the convocation of a Grand Lodge against his known and expressed wishes, and such a called Grand Lodge, upon the complaint of a secular Lodge, may present, try, and condemn him *ex parte*, while the more sacred relations of life are commanding his presence elsewhere. If such a course of proceeding is in accordance with constitutional Masonry, I can only say

that I have not been so taught its principles and practice. Few men worthy to occupy the Oriental chair would suffer themselves to be elevated to it with such an understanding of their position, and subject to such an application of Masonic rules."

We cannot withhold our concurrence in the truly Masonic decision referred to above, and ably discussed and clearly maintained throughout its details. Such has been the custom and practice of our State through a long period of time, which practice has never been questioned.

The chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Missouri has addressed a circular to the several Grand Lodges on the matter of the affairs of Masonry in the State of New York, and to make an effort to settle the conflict.

He considers it the duty of the several State Grand Lodges to make the effort simultaneously, and suggests "that the Grand Lodges of Massachusetts and Virginia, *because they are the oldest*, be appointed by the several Grand Lodges as arbitrators to settle the entire difference, to hear all parties, and dispose of all questions in connection with the conflict now raging in New York, at least so far as Ancient Craft Masonry is concerned or compromitted; and, in case of disagreement or inability to settle the difficulties aforesaid, they shall be empowered to call to their aid a similar committee from any Grand Lodge jurisdiction they may think proper."

And, to carry out these views, he expects to append to his report the following resolutions:

"1. That the Grand Lodges of Massachusetts and Virginia are hereby fraternally solicited, each, to appoint a committee on behalf of the Grand Lodges of the United States to examine and adjust all differences existing among the Fraternity in the State of New York, and the Grand Lodge of New York is hereby fraternally requested to submit the entire difficulties of that jurisdiction to the aforesaid committee, so far as the same is connected with Ancient Craft Masonry; that all parties interested be permitted and requested to lay their grievances before the said committee, that they may be finally and forever healed.

2. Should the aforesaid committee of Massachusetts and Virginia be unable to adjust the differences thus submitted to them, they are thereby empowered to call to their assistance an equal number of brethren from any other Grand Lodge in the Union."

The proposition submitted we hope will meet with a hearty response, and all the Grand Lodges in the United States, we doubt not will unite in the effort to restore peace and harmony where so many discordant elements are at work.

We therefore offer the following:

Resolved, That we heartily concur in the aforesaid proposition.

We, in conclusion, submit the several matters therein contained for your mature deliberation, in the hope they may meet your approval.

All which is respectfully submitted.

Dated January 10th, A. L. 5854.

JOSEPH H. HOUGH, *Chairman.*

The committee on the Secretary's and Treasurer's accounts made the following report; which was read, and, on motion, received, and committee discharged:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey.

BRETHREN—Your committee, appointed to examine into and report upon the accuracy of the accounts of the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary and Treasurer, would respectfully report.

Balance on hand last year,	$495 32
Received from various sources this year,	293 75
	$789 07
Paid out, as per vouchers,	557 02
Balance in Treasurer's hands,	$232 05

Respectfully submitted.

CHARLES H. PIERSON,
LEVI H. SANFORD,
GEORGE W. CURTIS.

The committee to whom was referred the address of the Grand Master, made the following report; which was read, and, on motion, agreed to:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Jersey:

BRETHREN—Your committee, to whom was referred the annual address of our Most Worshipful Grand Master, respectfully submit the following:

Having examined the same, endorse the congratulatory remark of the Most Worshipful Grand Master upon the increasing and healthy condition of the Craft in this jurisdiction, but find nothing specially to report upon, except the approval of the dispensations granted, as specified in his report, and recommend that, upon the return of the several dispensations granted for that purpos, warrants be issued, in lieu thereof, for the resuscitation of Jerusalem Lodge, No. 26, located at Plainfield, Essex county, and La Fayette Lodge, No. 27, located at Rahway, Middlesex county; also for a new Lodge, located at Bordentown, Burlington county, to be called Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 28, and Joppa Lodge, No. 29, located at Paterson, Pasaic county.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted.

Dated Trenton, January, 11th, 5854.

SAMUEL READ,
JOHN R. CROCKET,
JOHN R. CHAPIN.

The aforesaid Lodges were represented as follows:

D. W. Dorman, W. M., Jerusalem, No. 26.
John H. Janeway, W. M., La Fayette, No. 27.
Robert C. Buzby, W. M., James W. Allen, S. W., Mount Moriah, No. 28.
Isaac Van Wagoner, W. M., F. S. Weller, S. W., Joppa, No. 29.

The Grand Lodge was called off, for a short space of time, to make nominations for officers; and appointed Past Master Jacob Sharp, of No. 13, judge, and Past Masters George H. Tittle, of No. 17, and Joseph Booth, of No. 25, tellers, who reported the following, as nominated for the several offices specified:

Grand Master—Edward Stewart, No. 7, William S. Bowen, No. 2, Milton Baldwin, No. 7, Theodore R. Varick, No. 17.

Deputy Grand Master—Theodore R. Varick, No. 17, Milton Baldwin, No. 7, Samuel Read, No. 14, Jacob W. Morris, No. 9.

Senior Grand Warden—George A. Tittle, No. 17, Jacob W. Morris, No. 9, John R. Crocket, No. 25.

Junior Grand Warden—John Dill, No. 13, Jacob W. Morris, No. 9.

Grand Secretary—Joseph H. Hough, No. 5, Milton Baldwin, No. 7,

Deputy Grand Secretary—John R. Chapin, No. 1, Jeremiah H. Lupton, No. 2.

Grand Treasurer—Elias Phillips, No. 5.

An election was held, which resulted as follows:

Grand Master—Edward Steward, No. 7.
Deputy Grand Master—Theodore R. Varick, No. 17.
Senior Grand Warden—Jacob W. Morris, No. 9.
Junior Grand Warden—John Dill, No. 13.
Grand Secretary—Joseph H. Hough, No. 5.
Deputy Grand Secretary—John R. Chapin, No. 1.
Grand Treasurer—Elias Phillips, No. 5.

It was, on motion of James C. Ogden, of No. 7, *Ordered*, That the salary of the Grand Secretary be two hundred dollars per year.

Brother James C. Ogden, of No. 7, offered the following resolution; which was agreed to, and referred to Ichabod Harrison, of No. 11, Allen Osborn, of No. 10, and Past Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen, of No. 7.

"*Whereas*, the Constitution of this Grand Lodge expressly declares, that those who have been elected and installed as the Master of a Subordinate Lodge, and presided as such at least six months, shall be deemed as Past Master; *and whereas*, a question has been raised as to the Pastmastership of Brother John R. Crocket,—now, therefore,

"*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to examine into the facts of the case, and report at the next meeting of the Grand Lodge."

Bro. James C. Ogden, of No. 7, offered the following; which, on motion, were taken up separately:

The first was read, and, on motion, agreed to.

The second was read, and withdrawn.

The third was read, and, while under consideration, was laid on the table.

"1. *Resolved*, That the minutes of two Emergent Grand Lodge Meetings, held in Newark, in October and November, 1852, together with the report of the committee appointed to investigate the difficulties existing in St. John's Lodge, No. 1, be entered upon the minutes of this Grand Lodge, and published with the annual proceedings.

"2. *Resolved*, That the Grand Master be respectfully requested to present to this Grand Lodge the report submitted to him by the committee appointed to inquire into the standing of Pythagoras Lodge, of New York city, and also whether members of Diogenes Lodge, No. 22, of this State, have visited said Lodge, or received members of that Lodge to their meetings.

"3. *Resolved*, That the Subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge be permitted to receive all Masonic brethren who have not, by any unmasonic acts of their own, forfeited their rights to the benefits and privileges of the Institution.

"Trenton, January 11th, 5854."

The Grand Lodge was called off till eight o'clock.

8 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Officers as before, and a full representation.

VISITORS—Past Masters Moses Craig, of No. 8, William Kerwood, of No. 5, William Wilson, of No. 12, Bro. George Finch, of No. 9, Britton Hoffman, of No. 5, Stephen Congar and Joseph W. Miller, of No. 1, John P. Vanderbelt, of No. 17, E. A. Arnold, of Hiram Lodge, No. 1, Connecticut.

The third resolution, laid on the table at the close of the afternoon session, was called up, and, on motion of Deputy Grand Master Theodore R. Varick, that it be adopted, was disagreed to.

The committee to whom was referred the resolutions of the last session, on page 159 of the journal, [page 507 of this book,] made the following report.

A motion was made that the report be received and adopted.

The question was taken separately, when the reception was agreed to, and on adoption lost.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, of the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, held in Trenton, January 12th and 13th, A. L. 5853, the following preamble and resolution were passed:

"*Whereas*, it having been currently reported, and generally believed, that the members of Diogenes Lodge, No. 22, of the city of Newark, are, or have been, in the habit of exchanging visits with Pythagoras Lodge, of the city of New York, and it being generally admitted that Pythagoras Lodge is now working under a warrant from the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, and is considered, in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, of New York, to be a clandestine Lodge, therefore—

"*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed by this Grand Lodge to inquire into the standing of Pythagoras Lodge, of New York city, and, if found to be a clandestine Lodge, to ascertain if Diogenes Lodge, No. 22, have visited that Lodge or received members of that Lodge to their meetings; and said committee to make their report to the Grand Master as soon as convenient."

Agreeably to the instructions of the above resolution, the following report is submitted :

By a reference to the books of Diogenes Lodge, we find that, on several occasions the members of Pythagoras Lodge have visited Diogenes Lodge, and at the installation of Diogenes Lodge by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, a deputation of brethren from Pythagoras Lodge was present, and remained during the ceremonies of the evening. We are also correctly informed that the members of Diogenes Lodge have visited Pythagoras Lodge in New York, but we are not in possession of any written evidence to substantiate such to have been the case; however, the members of Diogenes Lodge have admitted that visits have been frequently exchanged by the respective Lodges; it is therefore unnecessary to investigate this point any further.

Your committee proceed, next, to inquire into the standing of Pythagoras Lodge, of the city of New York, now working under a warrant from the Grand Lodge of Hamburg.

Pythagoras Lodge was instituted on the 24th of June, A. L. 5841, under the authority and by the warrant of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York. It remained subordinate to the same until the difficulty occurred in the Grand Lodge, on the 5th of June, 1849, concerning the rights of Past Masters, which resulted in a separation into two parties, each claiming to be the rightful Grand Lodge. When the representatives of Pythagoras Lodge, united with the Phillips party, on the 3d of April, 1850, Pythagoras Lodge applied to the Grand Lodge of Hamburg for a charter. On the 24th of May, they resolved to acknowledge the body over which Most Worshipful Grand Master Willard presided to be the Grand Lodge of New York, and transmitted a circular to the Grand Lodge, explaining the reasons for the course they had pursued in respect to the dispute between the two bodies, and also expressing a desire that the difficulty might be amicably settled. They likewise notified the Grand Secretary that they had already applied to the Grand Lodge of Hamburg for a charter.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New York, Pythagoras Lodge was represented, and certain resolutions respecting Past Masters, presented on their behalf by Worshipful Brother Oscar Coles, were laid upon the table. On the 16th of August they sent a communication to the Grand Lodge, asking for an honorable discharge from their connection with that body; but receiving no answer, on the 20th of December, the Master and other officers abdicated, and placed their jewels of office upon the altar. The brethren then, by resolution, declared themselves isolated and independent, until the reception of the new charter from the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, and proceeded thereupon to select their new officers. They subsequently notified the Grand Lodge of their proceedings, and on the 10th of March, 1851, returned their warrant.

Previous to granting the warrant to Pythagoras Lodge, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg sent a communication to the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York, requesting permission to grant a warrant to Pythagoras Lodge, and thus assume jurisdiction over her. The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York made a distinct protest against any such measure of interference with the government of the Fraternity within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York. The Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, in reply, stated, that if no direct prohibitory law existed in New York, a warrant would be granted; that the Grand Lodges of the old continent neither knew nor acknowledged such a monopoly of power, and that the course they were about to take would be productive of beneficial consequences for future intercourse between the Grand Lodges of Germany and those of America, and would establish more friendly relations with the German brethren on either side of the ocean. Accordingly, on the 8th of February, 1851, the subject being then under discussion in the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, it was resolved that a warrant be granted to Pythagoras Lodge. On the 2d of May, by the authority of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, Pythagoras Lodge was installed, and has continued to work under a warrant from that body until the present time. The Grand Lodge of the State of New York objected to the position assumed by the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, asserting that the compact of June, 1827, was distinctly understood not only to prohibit the existence of two Grand Lodges in the State of New York, but also to exclude foreign jurisdiction of any kind, and, in accordance with the opinions of the Grand Lodges of the United States and of the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland, that no Grand Lodge has the right to enter the jurisdiction of another, they had declared the application as one fatal to the unity and integrity of Masonry in the United States, and calculated to lead to irremediable confusion. The Grand Lodge of New York, also, by resolution, remonstrated against the course pursued by the Grand Lodge of Hamburg in trespassing within the borders of her jurisdiction, and requested that the charter which she had issued to Pythagoras Lodge of New York be recalled. Pythagoras Lodge was subsequently declared irregular, and all Masonic intercourse with them prohibited, and her jewels and properties demanded

The position of Pythagoras Lodge is therefore a changing of authority from the Grand Lodge of New York to that of Hamburg, and resolves itself in a question of jurisdiction. There is no assumption of powers on their part, but it is exercised by one already established and genuine. It is, however, necessary to examine what influence that exercise of power has upon Pythagoras Lodge, in her present condition, within the territorial jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New York.

The laws of old Masonry were few and her government simple, because

the first Masons were virtuous. They met without the authority of a warrant from a Grand Lodge, as no such body existed, and guided by the unwritten laws and usages of the Fraternity, they conferred the degrees and performed the ordinary duties of Masonry. When they met in general council or assembly, all participated in the proceedings. As the institution extended, so the government became more complex. At the formation of the Grand Lodge at New York, the brethren, in convention, adopted "the Book of Constitutions of the English Lodges," an epitome, abstracted from many Greek, Latin, French, and other manuscripts of old laws and ordinances. A governing authority was erected with defined powers, and the Lodges became subordinate; but it was not till the final establishment of the Grand Lodge of England, in London, in 1717, that warrants were deemed absolutely necessary to constitute a Lodge (the four old Lodges then existing excepted). In the year 1779, the Grand Lodge of England, having previously attempted to invade the ancient right of "the Lodge of Antiquity," but without effect, resolved that every Subordinate Lodge held its authority from the Grand Lodge. This not being acceded to by the Lodge of Antiquity, they separated and united with the Grand Lodge at York, in which body their ancient rights were respected. In 1790, their authority and privileges being acknowledged as constitutional, they reunited themselves to the Grand Lodge of England. In this instance, the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England was invaded by the Grand Lodge at York.

But further. In 1725, the Grand Lodge of England granted a warrant to some Masons who had seceded from the Grand Lodge at York, to hold a Lodge within the jurisdiction of the latter. In 1738, other Lodges were constituted, and three provost Grand Masters appointed in the district of York. All friendly intercourse ceased, and the feud lasted till the final extinction of the Grand Lodge at York.

In 1739, some old London Masons, styling themselves Ancient Masons, held meetings and initiated persons into Masonry without power or authority. They openly disobeyed the ordinances of the Grand Lodge, and denied the authority of the Grand Master, pretending to follow the original York constitution. They assumed the right to establish new Lodges, and they formed a Grand Lodge, under the name of "the Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons," and were soon after acknowledged by the Fraternity in Scotland and Ireland. Thus there were three Grand Lodges in England, "the Grand Lodge of all England," established at York, A. D. 926, "the Grand Lodge of England," established in London, A. D. 1567, re-established in 1717, and "the Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons," in London, A. D. 1739, which did not hold communication with one another, but were all recognized as regular Masonic bodies by the Scotch and Irish Masons, by whom the law of limited jurisdiction does not seem to have been deemed essential. The Grand Lodge at York

ceased its meetings about the year 1799, and the two Grand Lodges in London, united December 27th, 1813, under the title of "the United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of England."

There were two Grand Lodges in Massachusetts for a period of forty years, the one derived from the Grand Lodge of England, the other from the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

In South Carolina there were two Grand Lodges from 1787 until 1808, when they united; but the following year another Grand Lodge was formed, which continued till 1817, when a final union took place.

In New York, the Grand Lodge separated in June, 1823, by resolution, and there were two Grand Lodges until June, 1827, when they united, and resolved that there ought to be but one Grand Lodge. On the 11th of September, 1837, St. John's Grand Lodge was instituted in the city of New York, and continued until the 27th of December, 1850, when they became united with the Grand Lodge of New York. There still exists a body exercising the powers of a Grand Lodge, whose members seceded in June, 1849, at which time there were three separate bodies, each claiming jurisdiction in the same territory.

The Grand Lodge of England, in 1726, created the office of Provincial Grand Master, with power, as the immediate representative of the Grand Master, to constitute Lodges in the province assigned to him. Lodges were established, under English warrants, in various cities of Europe, in the East Indies, on the coast of Africa, and in the provinces of America, so that, in less than half a century, her limited jurisdiction extended to every quarter of the world.

It will also be remembered that the Grand Lodge of New York, some few years since, issued warrants to constitute four Lodges in Mexico, which created some considerable degree of excitement concerning the right of jurisdiction.

In 1848, the Grand Lodge of Mississippi issued warrants to four Lodges in Louisiana, and a Grand Lodge was created, but the following year they were recalled.

The Grand Orient of France, in 1849, established a new Lodge under its authority in Richmond, Virginia, but the Grand Lodge of Virginia protested, and urged the recall of said warrant, on the ground that such acts introduce a division among us, and result unfavorably to the institution of York Masonry, now universally prevailing here. The Grand Orient of France recalled the warrant and advised the Lodge to make application to the Grand Lodge of Virginia for a charter, which was done.

On the continent of Europe, there are now three Grand Lodges in Berlin. There are also a number of individual Lodges independent of any Grand Lodge jurisdiction, some of which have worked without warrants from a period beyond all record or tradition. Again, a Lodge in one kingdom is found subject to the Grand Lodge of another.

Thus the law of jurisdiction by a Grand Lodge over a limited extent of territory is not deemed essential in continental Europe, and, until within a few years, has not been esteemed a rule of Masonry, either in Great Britain or America.

We therefore conclude—

1. That the exclusive right of constituting and governing Lodges within a State, or within certain boundaries of territory, has been adopted as a law of modern Masonry in Great Britain and the United States, but ought not to be regarded as a right derived from old usage.

2. That Pythagoras Lodge, now working under a legal charter emanating from a regularly constituted Grand Lodge, is neither an irregular nor a clandestine body.

3. The question of jurisdiction, in the case of Pythagoras Lodge, must be determined by the Grand Lodges of New York and Hamburg.

4. The course to be pursued by the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, in respect to the members of Diogenes Lodge, No. 22, visiting Pythagoras Lodge, is not for us to decide.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Newark, March 21st, A. L. 5853.

LUTHER GOBLE,
MILTON BALDWIN,
JAS. A. ALEXANDER.

The Deputy Grand Master was duly installed.

Past Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen presented a bill for expenses incurred by him when Deputy Grand Master and Grand Master, for the years 1839–40–1–2–3–4, amounting to the sum of forty-two dollars, which was ordered to be paid.

The Grand Lodge was then called off till to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock A. M.

THURSDAY MORNING, 9 O'CLOCK.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

The officers present as yesterday, and representation as follows:

Anthony C. Beam, S. W., St. John's, No. 1; Andrew Dutcher, J. W., Trenton, No. 5; George A. Tator, W. M., Washington, No. 9; Allen Osborn, proxy for W. M., Franklin, No. 10; Jacob Sharp, proxy for W M., Warren, No. 13; George W. Curtis, W. M., Mount Holly, No. 14

Chauncey Dygert, J. W., Hiram, No. 17; Thomas Hooper, J. W., Harmony, No. 18; John Hewet, W. M., Harmony, No. 23; D. W. Dorman, W. M., Jerusalem, No. 26; John H. Janeway, W. M., Lafayette, No. 27; Robert C. Buzby, W. M., Mount Moriah, No. 28; Isaac Van Wagoner, W. M., Joppa, No. 29.

MEMBERS.—Past Deputy Grand Master Samuel Read, No. 14; Past Masters William Kerwood, No. 5, William Wilson, No. 12, W. C. Guessner, No. 22; Bro's Thomas B. Woolston, No. 14; George H. Beatty, No. 13.

VISITOR.—A. W. Goff, National Lodge, No. 209, New York.

Past Grand Master Joseph W. Scott was received in ample form.

A petition was presented for a warrant for a Lodge, to be held at Cape Island, to be called "Cape Island Lodge, No. 30;" which was read, and, on motion, referred to a committee, consisting of Past Deputy Grand Master Samuel Read, No. 13, Past Master William Kerwood, No. 5, and Past Master William Wilson. No. 12.

The representative from Tuckerton had leave of absence for the remainder of the session.

Bro. John R. Chapin offered the following resolutions and moved their adoption.

While under consideration, the resolution offered by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence relative to the appointment of a committee on the subject of Education, was called up and read.

It was moved that all the resolutions be referred to one committee, which was unanimously agreed to.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge recommend to the Subordinate Lodges under its jurisdiction the creation of a voluntary subscription fund, to be sacredly devoted to the establishing of a charitable building fund for the purpose of purchasing the necessary land and erecting thereon a suitable building or buildings for a "Home for Free Masons, their Widows and Orphans," said fund to be created by the free-will contributions of the members for that purpose; and all sums so collected to be transmitted to the Grand Secretary, at each annual communication of the Grand Lodge, with the usual reports of the secretaries, to be by him paid into the hands of three or more trustees, who shall be appointed by the Grand Lodge to receive such moneys, and invest them to the best interest of said fund, as they may be directed by the Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That in the scheme thus proposed, the Grand Lodge recognizes a means by which a Mason's charity may be exerted to the greatest advantage; and we earnestly recommend the plan as one which commends itself to the thoughtful consideration of the Subordinate Lodges as a proper method of showing to the world the vitality of Masonry and the activity of the principles which we profess.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed at this communication to draw up an address to the Subordinate Lodges on this subject, and that they be empowered to print —— copies of the same for distribution among the Fraternity in this State at the expense of the Grand Lodge.

The foregoing resolutions were referred to Bro's John R. Chapin, of No. 1, Samuel Read, of No. 14, and George A. Tittle, of No. 17.

The committee to whom was referred the petition for a warrant for a Lodge, to be located at Cape Island, made the following report, which was agreed to.

To the Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Jersey.

Brethren—Your committee, to whom was referred the petition of Walter B. Miller and several others, for a warrant to locate a Lodge of Masons at Cape Island, Cape May county, to be hailed as Cape Island Lodge, No. 30, respectfully report—that from the high character of the petitioners, as well also the known reputation and standing of the brothers recommending the same, that the prayer of the petitioners be granted, and a warrant issue accordingly.

Respectfully and fraternally.

Trenton, January 12th, 5854.

Samuel Read,
William Kerwood,
William Wilson.

Bro. Charles H. Pierson offered the following resolution, and moved its adoption.

A motion was offered to amend, so as to read "freestone, at the discretion of the committee."

The question was then taken on the resolution as amended and adopted.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge do hereby recommend to the Subordinate Lodges in this State the propriety of raising, by voluntary subscription, a sufficient fund, to be appropriated to the purchase of a block of marble or granite, the same to be suitably inscribed and forwarded to Washington, D. C., there to be placed in the National Monument now being erected to our deceased brother, the immortal George Washington.

The foregoing resolution was referred to Bro's Charles H. Pierson, of No. 1, Isaac Van Wagoner, of No. 29, and James C. Ogden, of No. 7.

Past Deputy Grand Master Samuel Read, of No. 14, offered the following resolution; which was agreed to.

Resolved, That the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary be, and he is hereby authorized to erase the old number (18) in the original warrant of Mount Holly Lodge, and insert No. 14, being the present number of said Lodge.

Past Master William Kerwood called up his resolution, to be found on the printed journal, page 158, [page 506 of this book,] as follows:

Resolved, That one representative from each of the Subordinate Lodges in this State shall receive from the funds of this Grand Lodge —— cents, for each ten miles travel, going to and returning from the Grand Lodge, at the annual meeting in January, and also $— per day for attendance.

A motion was submitted to adopt it.

While under consideration, Past Master Jacob Sharp, of No. 13, offered the following:

Resolved, That the resolution, as appears on page 158, of the printed journal, [page 506 of this book,] be filled with cents 75 and $2.50, which will read as follows:

Resolved, That one representative from each of the Subordinate Lodges in this State shall receive from the funds of this Grand Lodge seventy-five cents for each ten miles travel, going to and returning from the Grand Lodge, at the annual meeting in January, and also $2.50 per day for attendance.

Past Master William Wilson moved to amend—"provided the representative remain until the close of the session."

Which was accepted;—and it was agreed that the whole matter be referred to a committee of three, to report at the next session.

Committee—John Dill, of No. 13, Robert C. Buzby, of No. 28, and Grand Treasurer Elias Phillips, of No. 5.

The Grand Officers (with the exception of the Deputy Grand Master, who was installed last evening), were

installed by Past Grand Master Joseph W. Scott, of No. 19, in ample form.

Bro. Charles H. Pierson offered the following resolution, and moved its adoption; which was disagreed to.

Resolved, That in the present disorganized and confused condition of the Masonic Fraternity of the State of New York, this Grand Lodge do not recognize the right or privilege of any of the members under the jurisdiction of any of their Grand Bodies to visit any of the Lodges under this jurisdiction, until a reconciliation is made.

The resolution, in the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, relating to the organization of a Supreme Grand or National Confederation of the United States, was called up and adopted.

Past Master William Kerwood, of No. 5, offered the following, which was received, and referred to the Committee on mileage and *per diem*.

Resolved, That the 10th section of Article 1, of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge be amended, by striking out the words "twenty-five" in the third line, and inserting "fifty" in the place thereof.

Bro. George W. Curtis, of No. 14, offered the following resolution, and moved its adoption; which was agreed to.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge order that the list of Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, over which the Hon. Reuben H. Walworth presides, be printed in the minutes of this session, for the information of the several Subordinate Lodges of this State.

It was moved by Past Master William Wilson, of No. 12—

That the Grand Secretary issue a circular, and send to the Several Lodges in this State, containing a list of the Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New York over which the Hon. Reuben H. Walworth presides.

The Grand Master stated that Rockaway Lodge, No. 20, had hardly been able to support themselves for three years past, and it was moved that two years' dues be remitted; which was agreed to.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Officers same as in morning session, and a due representation.

The bills presented were read, and referred to Bro's Chauncey Dygert, of No. 17, Anthony C. Beam, of No. 1, and Isaac Van Wagoner, of No. 29, who, after a short consultation, made the following report, which was agreed to.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey.

The committee appointed to audit the following accounts beg leave to report, that they have attended to that duty, and that they be ordered paid, viz.:

John Dill, traveling expenses	$ 15 00
Jacob W. Morris, traveling expenses	39 50
Samuel Read, Deputy Grand Master, traveling expenses	6 00
Joseph H. Hough, salary $50, postage, &c., $10.29.	60 29
Amos Howell, Grand Tyler, two days' services	4 00
Charles Scott, binding constitutions, stationery, &c	37 91
Milton Baldwin, Deputy Grand Secretary, expenses	7 00
Brown & Borden, advertising meeting in State Gazette	1 95
Phillips & Boswell, printing minutes, warrants, &c	96 47
H. B. Mattison, advertising in Bridgeton Chronicle	1 00
Edward Stewart, aprons, collars, and jewels	105 00
	$374 12

C. DYGERT,
A. C. BEAM,
ISAAC VAN WAGONER.

It was *Ordered*, That an appropriation of ten dollars be made to the Grand Chaplain.

The Chair announced as the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the present year, Joseph H. Hough, of No. 5, John H. Janeway, of No. 27, and James M. Cassady, of No. 15.

The minutes of the meeting were read, and, on motion, approved.

The Grand Master made the following appointments:

Rev. and W. Austin Craig,	No.	3,	Grand Chaplain.
Anthony C. Beam,	"	1,	Grand Senior Deacon.
Richard Francisco,	"	25,	Grand Junior Deacon.
Charles E. Stewart,	"	1,	Grand Marshal.
John Linn,	"	13,	Grand Stewards.
Anthony Phillips,	"	14,	Grand Stewards.
James Ross,	"	1,	Grand Swordbearer.
Aaron Reock,	"	7,	Grand Pursuivant.
Amos Howell,	"	5,	Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge closed in harmony and due form, to meet again on the second Wednesday in January next, at the Masonic Hall in the city of Trenton, unless sooner convened by the proper authority.

JOSEPH H. HOUGH, *Grand Secretary.*

Trenton, January 12th, 1854.

Abstract of Lodge returns—number of new and old members—moneys received, and what for, the past year.

LODGES.	No.	New mem.	Old mem.	Total mem.	Warrant fees.	Certificates.	Dues.	Total.
St. John's	1	26	83	109	.....	$3 00	$33 75	$36 75
Brearley	2	8	55	63	.....	.....	17 75	17 75
Cincinnati	3	2	46	48	.....	.....	12 50	12 50
Tuckerton	4	1	20	21	.....	.....	5 50	5 50
Trenton	5	3	31	34	.....	1 00	9 50	9 50
Lebanon	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Newark	7	28	68	96	.....	1 00	31 00	32 00
Clinton	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Washington	9	18	35	53	.....	4 00	17 75	21 75
Franklin	10	11	12	23	.....	.....	8 50	8 50
Union	11	15	69	84	.....	.....	24 75	24 75
Amwell	12	9	21	27	.....	.....	10 75	10 75
Warren	13	14	50	64	.....	.....	19 50	19 50
Mount Holly	14	8	30	38	.....	.....	12 50	12 50
Camden	15	13	35	48	.....	.....	15 25	15 25
Olive Branch	16	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 00	.....	1 00
Hiram	17	30	67	97	.....	14 00	31 75	45 75
Harmony	18	5	15	20	.....	.....	6 25	6 25
Union	19	7	27	34	.....	1 00	10 25	11 25
Rockaway	20	12	14	26	.....	.....	9 50	9 50
Navesink	21	.....	9	9	.....	.....	2 25	2 25
Diogenes	22	12	10	22	.....	.....	8 50	8 50
Harmony	23	12	12	24	.....	.....	20 25*	20 25
Prospect	24	6	9	15	$25 00	.....	5 25	30 25
Northern	25	11	12	23	25 00	.....	8 50	33 50
Jerusalem	26	.....	9	9	.....	.....	4 25	4 25
La Fayette	27	.....	18	18	.....	1 00	9 00	10 00
Mt. Moriah	28	.....	11	11	.....	.....	3 75	3 75
Joppa	29	.....	8	8	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cape Island	30	.....	9	9	.....	.....	.....	.....
		248	785	1033	$50 00	$26 00	$337 50	$413 50

* Two years.

OCTOBER SESSION, 1852.

NEWARK, October 13th, 1852.

An emergent meeting of the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey, was held, pursuant to the call of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, at Union Chapter Rooms, St. John's Hall, at seven P. M.

The following Lodges were represented:

F. M. Ricord, W. M., St. John's Lodge, No. 1; James C. Ogden, W. M., Newark Lodge, No. 7; W. C. Guessner, W. M., Diogenes Lodge, No. 25.

OFFICERS.

M. W. EDWARD STEWART, Grand Master.
R. W. LUTHER GOBLE, Senior Warden, p. t.
R. W. ISAAC P. BROWN, Junior Warden, p. t.
R. W. MILTON BALDWIN, Deputy Grand Secretary.
R. W. F. W. RICORD, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
R. W. EDW. W. LENNON, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
R. W. WILLIAM GODBER, Grand Tyler.

MEMBERS.—Past Grand Masters J. S. Darcy, Past Grand Master J. B. Munn, Past Grand Master E. Vanarsdale, Past Masters Samuel Smith and H. Whitenack.

VISITORS.—Bro's James J. Carter, J. C. Littell, Charles E. Stewart, J. D. Barnum, W. H. Lane, A. N. Dougherty, G. Sickles, J. R. Pierson, Joseph Sweasy, Joseph Miller, J. R. La Foy, Lindsley D. Morse.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master stated that the reason of calling this emergent meeting of the Grand Lodge was the existence of difficulties in St. John's Lodge, No. 1, arising from certain proceedings which had transpired in said Lodge.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to investigate the difficulties now existing in St. John's Lodge, No. 1, and report thereon.

Past Grand Master J. B. Munn, Past Grand Master J. S. Darcy, and Past Master Milton Baldwin were appointed.

There being no further business, the Grand Lodge was closed in form.

MILTON BALDWIN, *D. G. Sec'y.*

NOVEMBER SESSION, 1852.

NEWARK, November 30th, 1852.

An emergent meeting of the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey was held at seven P. M., in St. John's Hall.

The following Lodges were represented:

St. John's Lodge, No. 1, by Worshipful Master F. W. Ricord; Newark Lodge, No. 7, by Worshipful Master James C. Ogden; Diogenes Lodge, No. 22, by Worshipful Master W. C. Guessner.

OFFICERS.

M. W. EDWARD STEWART, Grand Master.
R. W. JAMES C. OGDEN, Senior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. EDWARD W. LENNON, Junior Grand Warden, p.t.
R. W. F. W. RICORD, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
R. W. WILLIAM GODBER, Grand Tyler.

Present—Past Grand Master D. B. Bruen, Past Master L. Goble, Past Master S. Smith.

VISITORS—Bros. Reock, of Newark Lodge, No. 7, Bull, of Union Lodge, No. 108, of Pennsylvania, Mayo, of Campbell Lodge, of Massachusetts.

The report of committee on St. John's Lodge was read, and, on motion, received, and committee discharged.

On motion, the resolutions of the report were adopted, and the Secretary requested to transmit a copy thereof to St. John's Lodge.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey.

Your committee appointed at an Emergent Meeting of the Grand Lodge, held October 13th, 1852, in the city of Newark, and instructed to investigate the difficulties now existing in St. John's Lodge, No. 1, would respectfully report—

That a series of difficulties have occurred, during the present year, which, apparently, cannot be satisfactorily arranged in harmony by the members of said Lodge.

On examining the book of the records of the proceedings of the Lodge, we find that at the regular meeting, held January 28th, A. L. 5852, petitions were presented from Joseph Rosenthal, Edward Conmont, and John R. Pierson, which were severally accompanied with due-bills, drawn by Bro. T. R. La Foy. They were received and referred, whereupon it was *Resolved*, That the proposition fee of each of the above named candidates be paid before the committees report. The due-bills, which

accompanied the petitions of John R. Pierson and Joseph Rosenthal, were subsequently paid.

An extra meeting was held April 19th, when the petition of Edward Conmont was brought up, and it was *Resolved*, That the resolution, passed January 28th, relative to fee before committee report on candidates, be rescinded.

It was then *Resolved*, That the proposition of E. Conmont be considered in due form, by receiving Bro. T. R. La Foy's due-bill accompanying the petition. The committee reported: he was balloted for and elected.

A regular meeting of the Lodge was held June 23d, A. L. 5852. The petition of William C. Lewis was presented, accompanied by Bro. L. Goble's due-bill. The Worshipful Master decided that the petition was not in due form, and out of order, as it was accompanied with a due-bill. The money was then presented, the petition received and referred.

At a regular meeting of the Lodge, held August 25th, the resolutions of January 28th and April 19th were called up, when it was *Resolved*, That the resolution of April 19th be considered a gross violation and subversion of the Regulations and By-Laws of this Lodge.

September 15th, 1852, an extra meeting was held. The minutes of the communications, held August 15th, 30th, and 31st, were severally read and approved.

On motion, it was *Resolved*, That the resolution of August 25th, declaring resolution of April 19th to be a gross violation of the By-Laws, be rescinded.

At the regular communication of March 10th, A. L. 5852, the petitions of J. D. Barnum and Thomas W. Dawson were reported upon by one member of the committee of investigation only. They were balloted for and elected.

On the 19th of February, at three P. M., an extra meeting was held, when it was *Resolved*, That St. John's Lodge make application to the Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Jersey for a dispensation to make John R. Pierson, at one and the same communication. The degrees were severally conferred.

At the regular meeting, June 19th, the committee on J. R. Pierson reported. The candidate was balloted for and elected. August 25th, 1852, at a regular meeting of the Lodge, the case of Bro. John R. Pierson was brought up, when it was *Resolved*, That, in this peculiar case, the By-Laws, Art. IV. Sec. 4th, be suspended in reference to Bro. Pierson, and that we proceed to ballot for him, as an adjoining member. It was also *Resolved*, That the ballot be taken again; which being done, he was declared to be unanimously elected.

At the regular communication of September 22d, A. D. 1852, Bro's La Foy and Pierson presented a series of charges against Past Master Luther Goble, of unmasonic conduct; the fourth, fifth, and sixth speci-

fications of which charge him with presuming to dictate to the Worshipful Master, misleading him, making efforts to undermine his authority, &c.

Some of the above proceedings were transacted at late and unseasonable hours, when but few members were present.

Other circumstances, that have happened during the progress of these unpleasant difficulties, were brought to the notice of the committee; but, deeming them unnecessary to be examined, we have only referred to the written proceedings of the Lodge.

The committee respectfully offer a few limited observations in reference to the several transactions, as presented in the above extracts from the book of minutes.

1. The reception of due-bills, instead of money, for the proposition fee, by resolution of January 28th, is clearly a violation of Sec. 2, Art. IV, By-Laws of St. John's Lodge, which declares that eight dollars shall be deposited with the secretary. The petitions ought not to have been received until the money was deposited. The resolution of April 19th, rescinding resolution of January 28th, was wrong, as no resolution passed at a regular communication can be rescinded at an extra meeting. It was also wrong to receive the report of the committee and ballot for the candidate. Neither of the resolutions should have been entertained by the Lodge. The decision of the Worshipful Master, June 23d, in the case of William C. Lewis, was correct and in strict conformity with the By-Laws. The resolution of August 25th, likewise sustains the same. The resolution of September 15th, was wrong, inasmuch as it rescinds the resolution of a regular meeting at an extra communication, and also manifestly impairs the integrity of the By-Laws. In fact the whole course of the Lodge in relation to due-bills virtually repeals an important by-law, by giving it a construction different from its literal meaning.

2. The report of a majority of the committees on the petitions of J. D. Barnum and Thomas W. Dawson, March 15th, should not have been received. The report of one member of a committee, without the concurrence of the rest, is not a report, nor is a majority report sufficient; all the members should sign the report, or at least be vouched for by the chairman, having their full consent thereto. A departure from Masonic usage in such cases is a dangerous precedent.

3. The election of John R. Pierson to membership, having given rise to considerable controversy, and being still held to have been an act in violation of the principles and customs of the institution, ought to be brought to the notice of the Grand Lodge. The petition of J. R. Pierson was presented January 28th, 1852. He was made by dispensation the 19th of February. On the 9th of June (nearly five months) one member reported and he was elected. August 25th, it was stated that the election of June 9th was transacted at a late hour of the night, when most of the members had retired, and that the By-Laws were not complied with. It

was then *Resolved*, That he be declared not a member of St. John's Lodge. It was also further *Resolved*, That in this peculiar case, Sec. 4th, Art. IV. By-Laws be suspended, in reference to Bro. Pierson, and that we proceed to ballot for him as an adjoining member. The ballot being taken, he was declared elected. This may, with propriety, be called an effort to legalize an illegality. Sec. 4th, Art. IV. By-Laws, states that "any Mason being desirous of becoming a member of this Lodge, upon being proposed by a member of the same, shall be balloted for, and, if admitted, shall pay into the treasury the sum of three dollars." The 7th Sec. General Regulations of Grand Lodge, declares that no person can be admitted a member of a Lodge without being proposed one month before, &c. The General Regulations of Masonry states that no person can be made or admitted a member of a Lodge, or a resigned member be permitted to rejoin a Lodge without being proposed one month before. The dispensation does not affect the case. It only permits a person to be made a Mason, and cannot admit him to membership in any Lodge. The ancient charges declare that no person can be regularly made a Free Mason in, or admitted a member of, any regular Lodge, without previous notice and due inquiry into his character. Thus, to guard the Lodge against the introduction of a member who might disturb the harmony among the brethren, our laws require a proposition in writing, which should be read in the Lodge, that due notice may be given, after which it should lie over one month, during which time it is to be entrusted to the care of a committee, who should make proper inquiry into the character of the applicant, and report thereon. The balloting must then take place during Lodge hours. No By-Law can be dispensed with or disregarded, the rights of the members of the Lodge cannot be infringed upon, nor can any thing be done contrary to the principles and established usages of the Craft. Expediency is not a rule in Masonry. Had the committee reported when the month expired, or some notice been taken of the omission, or a postponement been allowed, then the election of J. R. Pierson would assume a different aspect; but, after a period of five months has elapsed, it is not only opposed to sound sense and expediency, but it is a manifest violation of the ancient landmarks, removing the right of each member to decide upon the admission or rejection of an applicant for initiation or affiliation. The resolution declaring him not a member was a proper one, as no one can be made a member except in accordance with the laws and customs of the Fraternity. The ballot for him, August 25th, seven months after the time of petition, with a resolution suspending one of the By-Laws, and in direct violation of the usages of the Fraternity, infringing upon the rights of members, who could not be aware of such a mode of procedure, was illegal and unconstitutional, and consequently null and void. The only right way would have been

to have renewed the application, and proceeded as Masonic law and custom prescribe.

4. The transaction of Lodge business at extra communications is improper, and should always be avoided if possible, more especially if such busines has been previously considered at a regular meeting, as it tends to produce discord and is contrary to Masonic law. No Lodge can, at an extra communication, alter or expunge the proceedings of a regular communication; hence the resolutions of April 19th and September 15th, rescinding resolutions passed at regular meetings, are of no effect. No business ought to be transacted after the allotted hours of working.

5. The minutes of the Lodge deserve a passing notice. Several important facts in relation to these difficulties are not on the Book of Minutes, while other things of no consequence, or perhaps improper to be recorded, are entered in full. The minutes have been corrected by a system of striking out and inserting, and this commonly after they are written in the book. They are also read at extra meetings, which is wrong without a doubt. The proper time to read them is just before closing, that any alteration or amendment may be proposed, or omissions supplied by the brethren, and again immediately after opening the next regular communication, that they may be confirmed. No minutes should be read at extra meetings, as they connot be amended or discussed if found to be incorrect, until the next regular communication. No part of the regular transactions can be omitted, or subsequently removed; but if the record be untrue, it can be corrected.

6. The charges against Past Master Luther Goble are of serious import—written in harsh style, evidently without calm reflection.

The committee are aware that much unpleasant feeling has been exhibited during this controversy; yet they see nothing to impugn the motives of any one. The position of the Lodge was a false one, and Bro. Goble was actuated by a sense of duty in his opposition thereto. The Most Worshipful Grand Master Stewart, with a desire to promote peace and concord, also urged his attendance, trusting that, through his knowledge and experience in Masonic rules and usages, he would be able to set the proceedings right. There is, therefore, every reason to believe that he has acted with a view to promote the welfare and prosperity of the Lodge and to sustain the principles of Masonry. The 4th, 5th and 6th charges are of such a nature that they involve questions which the ordinary members of the Lodge are incapable of judging, nor is the Lodge a proper tribunal before which they can be entertained. Under this view of the case, it was highly improper to enter a full copy of them upon the records.

The committee entertain feelings of respect towards the brethren of St. John's Lodge for the kind assistance afforded us in our efforts to investigate the various difficulties in which the Lodge is involved.

The following resolutions are respectfully submitted to the consideration of the Grand Lodge:

Resolved, That St. John's Lodge, by accepting due-bills, instead of money, for the fee of petition, receiving minority reports of the committees on candidates for Masonry, and by rescinding the resolutions of the regular communications at extra Lodge meetings, has departed from the ancient landmarks of Masonry, and also violated the 1st, 2d, and 4th sections of Art. IV. of the By-Laws, by which the same is governed.

Resolved, That the election of Bro. John R. Pierson is contrary to Masonic law, and that he is not a member of St. John's Lodge.

Resolved, That St. John's Lodge be directed to dismiss the charges against Past Master Luther Goble, and that the same be erased from the Book of Minutes.

Resolved, That we urge upon the brethren of St. John's Lodge the nesessity of a strict adherance to the ancient usages and customs of the Craft, and also recommend them to unite their earnest endeavors to restore harmony and good order again in the Lodge, thus promoting their best interests, as well as increasing the general welfare and prosperity of the whole Fraternity.

November 26th, A. L. 5852.

J. B. Munn,
John S. Darcy,
Milton Baldwin.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in form.

MILTON BALDWIN, *D. G. Sec'y.*

JANUARY SESSION, 1855.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Trenton, on Wednesday and Thursday, January 10th and 11th, A. L. 5855, there being

PRESENT,

M. W. EDWARD STEWART, Grand Master.
R. W. THEODORE R. VARICK, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. JACOB W. MORRIS, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOHN DILL, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. ELIAS PHILLIPS, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Grand Secretary.
R. W. JOHN R. CHAPIN, Deputy Grand Secretary.
Rev. & W. AUSTIN CRAIG, Grand Chaplain.
W. ANTHONY C. BEAM, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. JOHN VANCLEVE, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
Bro. AMOS HOWELL, Grand Tyler.
R. W. WILLIAM KERWOOD, Representative of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

Past Grand Masters.—Jeptha B. Munn, No. 1; Daniel B. Bruen, No. 7; Charles Burroughs, No. 5; Past Deputy Grand Master Samuel Read, No. 14.

Past Masters.—William Wilson, No. 12; Isaac P. Brown and E. W. Lennon, No. 1; Jabez Beers, No. 3; Robert Laird, No. 9; Ichabod Harrison and Simeon Harrison, No. 11; James M. Cassady, No. 15; Daniel Camp, No. —; Peter J. Powless, Hoboken, U. D.; Samuel L. Moore, Washington, U. D.; D. W. Dorman, No. 26; Josiah J. Burgess, Varick, U. D.; George Waters and John H. Janeway, No. 27; Haley Fisk, No. 19; William Liebe, No. 22; Milton Baldwin, No. 7; Alexander Dickerson, No. 1; David Naar, No. 5.

Rev. J. L. Lenhart, Past Grand Chaplain.

Visitors.—Daniel S. Sinclair, Varick, U. D.; H. Taylor, No. —; Ellwood Cannon, Elias E. Boudinot, Ferdinand Brother, Samuel Keys, Francis Roth, John F. Kelly and John Rodgers, Burlington, U. D.; William Godber, No. 1; Thomas E. Ballinger, No. 4; William F. Wier, No. 13; Ebenezer Large, No. 12; Peter Williamson, No. 28; William Eccles, Charles H. Higginson and Jacob Miller, No. 5; James A. Alex-

ander, No. 17; John V. Arrowsmith, No. 26; James S. Green, jun., W. M., Wallace L. Crowell, S. W., and Francis Sayre, Washington, U. D., Elizabethtown; Benjamin F. Crane, No. 25; John W. Van Boskerck, W. M., Francis M. McDonough, S. W., John T. Auchincloss, J. W., and John P. Cloyd, jun., Hoboken, U. D.; Stephen Moore and William Flagg, Union, No. 19; Joseph Pilkington, Clark Lodge, Louisville, Kentucky; John Dalzell Moore, Meridian Sun Lodge, No. 158, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; John Francis, late of Eagle Lodge, U. D., Hoboken; Japhet B. Woolston, No. 14; John B. Stoll, No. 23; H. Whittell and James M. Ribble, No. 13.

LODGES REPRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

Luther Goble, proxy for W. M., Charles H. Pierson, S. W., John J. Craven, J. W., St. John's No. 1.

Not represented, Brearley Lodge, No. 2.

William C. Mott, proxy for W. M., Cincinnati, No. 3.

Not represented, Tuckerton, No. 4.

Andrew Dutcher, W. M., Edward W. Scudder, S. W., Trenton, No. 5.

Not represented, Lebanon, No. 6.

David S. Plume, W. M., Newark, No. 7.

Moses Craig, W. M., Clinton, No. 8.

George A. Tator, W. M., Washington, No. 9.

John Vancleve, proxy for W. M., Oliver H. Taylor, S. W., William H. Sherman, J. W., Franklin, No. 10.

William M. Babbitt, W. M., William B. Williams, S. W., Union (Orange), No. 11.

Charles A. Skillman, W. M., Moses G. Quick, J. W., Amwell, No. 12.

J. Henry Black, W. M., Warren, No. 13.

George W. Curtis, W. M., Levi Davis, S. W., Mount Holly, No. 14.

Joseph J. Bender, W. M., Camden, No. 15.

Not represented, Olive Branch, No. 16.

Chauncey Dygert, W. M., James W. Low, J. W., Hiram, No. 17.

Not represented, Harmony, No. 18.

" " Union (New Brunswick), No. 19.

" " Rockaway, No. 20.

George Finch, W. M., Navesink, No. 21.

George Burgesser, W. M., Diogenes, No. 22.

Benjamin Stewart, W. M., Harmony, No. 23.

Silas A. Thompson, W. M., Prospect, No. 24.

William R. Todd, W. M., Joseph Booth, S. W., Northern, No. 25.

Henry R. Cannon, W. M., John Layton, jun., S. W., Jerusalem, No. 26.

Not represented, Lafayette, No. 27.

Robert C. Buzby, W. M., Charles C. Buzby, J. W., Mount Moriah, No. 28.

Isaac Van Wagoner, W. M., Richard B. Chiswell, S. W., Thomas Thorp, J. W., Joppa, No. 29.

Not represented, Cape Island, No. 30.

Twenty-one Lodges represented.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge was opened in ample form.

The Throne of Grace was addressed by the Grand Chaplain.

The minutes of the last annual meeting were partly read. On motion of Past Deputy Grand Master Samuel Read, of No. 14, the further reading was dispensed with.

The Grand Master announced, as a committee to settle the Grand Treasurer's and Secretary's books, William M. Babbitt, of No. 11, Dennis W. Dorman and John Layton, of No. 26.

It was on motion, *Ordered*, That the Grand Tyler be paid three dollars per day for his services during the session of the Grand Lodge.

The following address of the Most Worshipful Grand Master was read, and referred to a committee—Past Grand Masters J. B. Munn, Daniel B. Bruen, and Past Deputy Grand Master Samuel Read.

On motion of Past Master Luther Goble, of No. 1, and amended by Past Master James M. Cassady, No. 15, that so much of said address as refers to Eagle and Hoboken Lodges, Hudson county, be referred to a special committee —agreed to.

Committee, Isaac Van Wagoner, of No. 29, Simeon Harrison, of No. 11, and Dennis W. Dorman, of No. 27.

Dearly beloved brethren—It affords me pleasure to congratulate you that we are once more permitted, through the goodness and mercy of the Supreme Architect of the Universe, to assemble in Grand Lodge under circumstances so peculiarly favorable. As members of the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey, we have just cause for renewed thankfulness and rejoicing; and I congratulate you, brethren, upon the prosperous condition of the Lodges within this jurisdiction.

A brief review of the past and present will serve to show you how our institution now stands, in a comparative point of view. The journals of the proceedings of the Annual Grand Lodge meeting in this place show a

progressive increase of Masonry from the year 1786, under Grand Master Brearley and his successors in office, up to the year 1830, its most prosperous period. About the years 1824 and '25, the representatives in this hall were composed (besides Grand Officers) of delegates from twenty-three to thirty-three Subordinate Lodges; and ordinarily there was a full attendance at the meetings, when the right spirit prevailed among the brethren. I derive this from the account that I have received from some of those who took an active part in Masonry at that time; but our records show that, some time after that period, this Grand Lodge and its Subordinate Lodges had to pass through the *dark ages of persecution* and *malignant proscription* for a period, and met (if at all) in greatly diminished numbers. Some time after this tremendous shock, Masonry began gradually to revive, composed, as it then was, of representatives from six or seven Lodges only, from 1842 up to 1848, when a further advance in numbers appeared; and now we can report for last January (1854), thirty Lodges returned here, whose members, taken collectively, amount to one thousand and thirty-three in number.

Yet an addition of numbers of Free Masons in our Lodges are not the only requisites we need; we want members now, and those who may hereafter become such, to understand the principles taught in the explanation of our emblems and lectures, as a system of *moral and social virtues;* we want them inculcated, and not merely so in name, but we want them followed out in reality by our members in their lives and conversation.

We want Masonry *as it is* [moral Free Masonry], taught as a science to the initiated, as they advance in their degrees; or, in other words, we desire that the initiated should understand fully, and be instructed in one degree first, before they take another, and so onward in the second, and to the end of the third degree.

It is my belief that if Free Masonry is not taught and explained amply in each degree, as candidates proceed, that it would be rare, indeed, if the initiated ever arrived at a thorough knowledge of the principles of our Fraternity; therefore I feel bound to recommend that hereafter all our Subordinate Lodges observe fully that the candidates whom they admit are well instructed in all the ancient usages, laws, rules, practices and customs of the Fraternity, and the laws of the *ceremonies* of initiation and the prerequisites of candidates, which are termed "*the body of Masonry.*"

I will now give you a brief retrospect of my labors during the past Masonic year.

Applications have been made to me, in requisite form, to resuscitate and to organize the following named Lodges, viz.: one at Hoboken, Hudson county, named Eagle Lodge; one at Jersey City, Hudson county, called Varick Lodge; to resuscitate Washington Lodge, formerly No. 41, located in the borough of Elizabeth; one at Hoboken, Hudson county, called Hoboken Lodge; one at the city of Burlington, Burlington county,

called Burlington Lodge, and one at Whitehouse, Hunterdon county, Readington township, called ——— Lodge; all of which I have duly organized and set to work. They are returnable to the annual meeting of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, and subject to its action. I would, therefore, respectfully recommend that this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge grant them separately warrants, to enable them to pursue their Masonic labors as regular Lodges, with the exception of Eagle Lodge, which has returned its dispensation. I would, therefore, also most respectfully request this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge to give sanction to the acts of said Eagle Lodge while under dispensation, and until the proper delivery of said dispensation is made to this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge. The books and papers of the said Eagle Lodge are now in possession of the Grand Secretary, and subject to the inspection of all or any of the members of this Grand Lodge who may feel desirous of examining them. In the same connection, I would add, that they have discharged all their indebtedness to this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

I have visited the following named Lodges, who are working under the jurisdiction of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, viz.: St. John's Lodge, No. 1; Newark Lodge, No. 7; Varick Lodge, U. D.; Hiram Lodge, No. 17; Eagle Lodge, U. D.; Hoboken Lodge, U. D.; Cape Island Lodge, No. 30, and Washington Lodge, U. D.

I have also visited the following named Lodges, for the purpose of assisting in the installation of their officers: Diogenes Lodge, No. 22; Northern Lodge, No. 25; Rockaway Lodge, No. 20; Union Lodge, No. 11; Franklin Lodge, No. 10; Cincinnati Lodge, No. 3; Harmony Lodge, No. 23; Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 28; Joppa Lodge, No. 29; Jerusalem Lodge, No. 26; Lafayette Lodge, No. 27; Burlington Lodge, U. D.; and I have the pleasure in adding, for the information of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, that I found them in a flourishing condition. It was my intention to have extended my official visits, so as to embrace all the Lodges within the jurisdiction of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge; but, on account of the prevailing epidemic, I was compelled, from motives of personal safety and from peculiar domestic arrangements, to deny myself the pleasure.

I have granted dispensations to the following named Lodges, to enable them to make Masons without the usual form of lying over one month; St. John's Lodge, Newark Lodge, Washington Lodge, Camden Lodge, No. 15, Varick Lodge, U. D., and Lafayette Lodge.

I have, on one or more occasions, found it necessary to convene the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge; the minutes of the procedings of which are in possession of the Grand Secretary, and subject to the perusal of the members of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, when required.

Brethren, during the period that I have had the honor to preside over the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, (five years) your deliberations

have been characterized by the utmost harmony and uncommon unanimity. This is evidence of the good feeling which exists among the brotherhood; and it is sure proof, and confirmation strong, that there is no institution in the world which is so eminently calculated to improve the social position of man, or to form the basis for the firm foundation of civil liberty. Again, I congratulate you upon the existing good feeling; it has always been my aim to cultivate and preserve it.

Brethren, let us profit by the teachings of the past, and, when clustered around the sacred altar of Masonry, let us renew our pledges of fidelity and good will towards each other; and, when humbly asking protection of the Great Architect of the universe, let us learn obedience of Him whose sacred word and holy precepts are

> To the aged pilgrim a noonday sun,
> And a lamp to the feet of youth.

Brethren, if trials and vicissitudes assail you through the rugged and thorny path of life, remember to keep your hope! "Hope on, hope ever," is the true philosophy; hope will cheer and lead you on. In the battle field of life keep hope by your side, and you are sure of victory! Give all else you have, if you will, but, like Alexander of old, keep your hope. And permit me to add, in the language of one of earth's sublimest poets,

> Hope humbly then, with trembling pinions soar,
> Wait the teacher Death, and God adore.
> What future bliss, he gives not thee to know,
> But gives that hope to be a blessing now;
> Hope springs eternal in the human breast,
> Man never is, but always to be blest;
> The soul, uneasy and confined to home,
> Rests and expatiates in a life to come.—POPE.

Brethren, a Mason's duty is an exalted one. In his teachings he is reminded, as a member of the wide-spread Fraternity, that he is to educate, to clothe, to cherish, and protect the widow and the orphan; to lift the poor stricken widow from the dark tabernacle of despair; to dry her tears and smooth the troubled waters of her distress. Thrice happy is that broiher who is the glorious inheritor of that high and ennobling quality which

> "Opens in each heart a little heaven."

It is the brightest jewel in a Free Mason's casket, and is the chief characteristic of a virtuous and liberal mind. "*Charity extends beyond the grave* through the boundless realms of eternity."

Brethren, the past has been an eventful year. In the East, war, horrible war, in all its hideous forms, has waged fiercely. The elements of discord and deadly strife still prevail, and upon every breeze is wafted

the sound of resounding arms. Thousands of the brave have found a resting place far away from home and kindred, and their bones lie bleaching on the plains. With us all is peace! The magic words, "Faith, Hope and Charity," are echoed and re-echoed over mountains and valleys, while Masonry binds in her adamantine chains the whole of this glorious country, from the far off regions of the North to the stormy cape of the South; from the shores of the Atlantic to the Pacific, her broad banner floats wherever civilization has found a home. Masonry comprehends within its circle every useful branch of knowledge and learning, and charity is the chief of all its social virtues: Masonry and charity are synonymous.

Brethren, let us go forward, nerved with the assurance that the Grand Master of the Universe will never suffer the "vine planted by his own right hand" to wither or die. Let us remember that "time, patience, and perseverance" will accomplish all things. "He who tempers the wind to the shorn lamb" will shelter all with His protecting wings from the whirlwind of adversity.

And now, brethren, as your Grand Master, I feel the weight of honors conferred in the high station to which you have elevated me, with the firm conviction that I have always endeavored to be on the side of right. There is a truthful adage, "To err is but human, to forgive divine." If I have committed any errors, I pray you let them be named as errors of the head, not of the heart. We are journeying towards the Grand Lodge on high, where I trust all will meet. There is a day to come when all hearts will be open, all desires known, and where no secrets will be hid.

Let us prepare for the event! Let us seek for and cherish that hope which is as an anchor to the soul, and which exults in the glorious prospect of everlasting honors in a home beyond the stars!

Dearly beloved brethren take the solemn lesson to heart, and let us

"So live, that when our summons comes to join
The innumerable caravan that moves
To that mysterious realm where each shall take
His chamber in the silent halls of death;
We go not like the quarry slave at night
Scourged to his dungeon, but, sustained and soothed
By an unfaltering trust, approach our grave
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

EDWARD STEWART, *Grand Master.*

The following report of the Deputy Grand Master was read, and, on motion, was referred to the committee aforesaid.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey.

I beg leave to report, that during the past year, in my official capacity, I visited the following Lodges, viz.: St. John's, No. 1, Newark; Amwell, No. 12, Lambertville; Hiram, No. 17, Jersey City; Prospect, No. 24, Mendham; Joppa, No. 29, Paterson; Washington, Elizabethtown; Eagle, U. D., Hoboken; Varick, U. D., Jersey City; and Hoboken, U. D., Hoboken; all of which I found in a highly prosperous condition.

The dispensation under which Eagle Lodge of Hoboken worked has subsequently been surrendered to me, and by me to the Grand Master.

I have installed the officers elect of the following Lodges, viz.: Hiram No. 17, Varick, U. D., and Hoboken, U. D.

I regret exceedingly that unavoidable circumstances prevented me from visiting each Lodge under our jurisdiction, as was my intention.

I would also call the attention of this Grand Lodge to the want of uniformity in the manner of working in many of the Lodges I have visited, and would suggest the appointment of Grand Lecturers, of as great a number as this Grand Lodge may deem expedient, who shall be under the direction of the Grand Lodge, and whose duty it shall be to correct discrepancies, thereby producing uniformity in the manner of working in the various Lodges under this jurisdiction.

The appointment of Grand Lecturers seems to be the only practicable mode of reaching the desired end, as, from the number of Lodges, it would be impossible for one or two of the Grand Officers to devote sufficient time to perfect the object in view.

All which is respectfully submitted.

THEODORE R. VARICK, *R. W. D. G. M.*

The following report of the Grand Secretary was read, and, on motion, referred to a special committee—Past Master Isaac P. Brown, of No. 1, Joseph Booth, of No. 25, and Robert C. Buzby, of No. 29.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey of Free and Accepted Masons:

The undersigned respectfully reports, that since the last Annual Communication, as soon thereafter as circumstances would permit, there were distributed to each Subordinate Lodge, of the journal of proceedings of said annual meeting, *five copies*, and to each Past Master, *one* copy, and *one* to each of the several Grand Lodges in correspondence with this Grand Lodge.

And further reports of the moneys received, up to to-day from the several sources, as follows:

For warrant fees of Joppa Lodge, No. 29	$25 00
Warrant Fee, Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 28	25 00
Newark Lodge, No. 7, for dues (per M. Baldwin, sec'y)	38 25
Amwell Lodge, No. 12, for dues (by C. H. Skillman, W. M.)	13 50
Grand Lodge certificates throughout the year	31 00
Lafayette Lodge, No. 27	9 00
Trenton Lodge, No. 5	13 50
Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 28	8 75
Union Lodge, No. 10, (at Orange)	17 50
Franklin Lodge, No. 10	6 50
St. John's Lodge, No. 1	32 25
Tuckerton Lodge, No. 4	7 00
Harmony Lodge, No. 23	13 25
Diogenes Lodge, No. 22	6 25
Washington Lodge, U. D. (Elizabethtown)	12 50
Total	$259 25

The returns of Burlington, U. D., Harmony, No. 18, Brearley, No. 2, Camden, No. 15, Prospect, No. 24, and Northern, No. 25, have been received, but no dues paid to this date.

Article 1, section 11, of the By-Laws says:

"Every Lodge shall also pay to the Grand Lodge the sum of fifty cents for every person who obtains the benefit of Masonry under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge; *all which dues shall be paid on the day preceding each yearly communication. And the Masters and Wardens, or representatives from any Lodge, shall not take their seats until their dues be paid, and the Secretary's receipt produced therefor.* And in case of neglect or refusal to pay the same at the next communication, and no reasonable excuse offered, such Lodge shall be struck off the books of the Grand Lodge, and their warrant considered null and void; but on proper application to the Grand Lodge, payment of dues, and making due returns, they may be restored to their former rank and privileges, if the Grand Lodge shall judge proper."

This section speaks for itself, and no one would wish to see it lived up to and carried out in good faith more than the undersigned, for it takes all the forenoon of the first day to receive dues; when, if attention was paid to making up the return immediately after the election of officers in the several subordinates, and forwarded together with the dues, would very much facilitate the business and enable him to be ready, and the Grand Lodge call to business at the appointed hour.

And further reports the several balances due the Grand Lodge on the ledger as follows:

Cincinnati, No. 3, (for certificates)	$6 00
Washington Shrewsbury, No. 9, (for 1850, due 1851)	23 00
Amwell, No. 12, (balance of 1852)	2 25
Olive Branch, No. 16, (nothing paid for four years)	
Hiram, No. 17, (Grand Lodge certificate)	1 00

Lebanon, No. 6, and Olive Branch, No. 16, have not been represented, nor any dues paid for some years past. It will (or should) be necessary to take some action why they should not be declared suspended. A part of the 4th section of the 1st article of By-Laws, says: "And if any Lodge shall neglect to send a representative for three successive communications, such Lodge shall be struck off the list, and their warrant be considered null and void."

The 16th section of the General Regulations says:

"Immediately after any election of officers which shall be held by the several Lodges within this jurisdiction, the secretary of each Lodge shall report, in writing, to the Grand Master and Grand Secretary, the names of the Master and Wardens elected, together with their places of residence, and the post-towns nearest which they reside."

I regret that necessity compels me to report to you the very small number of Subordinate Lodges who comply with the above section, and we trust that this hint will be sufficient to remind all Lodges to observe the same, and notify the officers therein named at the proper time. The Lodges who have complied with said regulations are St. John's, No. 1, Trenton, No. 5, Newark, No. 7, Hiram, No. 17, Navesink, No. 21, Mount Moriah, No. 28, Joppa, No. 29, Varick, No. —, Hoboken, No. —, and Washington, at Elizabethtown, No. —.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JOSEPH H. HOUGH, *G. Sec'y.*

Dated January 9th, 1855.

Past Master James M. Cassady, of No. 15, presented the petition of Bro. Joseph Pilkington, late of Eagle Lodge, U. D., which, on motion, was referred to the committee on the subject of Eagle and Hoboken Lodges, without reading.

The Grand Secretary presented the appeal of Bro. Rees P. Francis, late of Hoboken Lodge, U. D.

On motion, it was referred to the same committee.

Bro. George Finch presented the following petition

It was, on motion, referred to the following committee—William R. Todd, No. 25, Silas A. Thompson, No. 24, and Benjamin Stewart, No. 23.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Officers and Brethren of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey:

We, whose respective names are hereunto subscribed, and members of Navesink Lodge, No. 21, located at Red Bank, Monmouth county, New Jersey, would respectfully solicit the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge to change the name of our said Navesink Lodge, No. 21, to that of Mystic Brotherhood Lodge, No. 21, for the following reasons, viz.: there being a Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of the same name located at Red Bank, and meet in the same hall that our Lodge does, it often occurs that we come in conflict with each other in our correspondence and out-door matters, which might at some future time lead to something detrimental to both. They, being of an older date than our Lodge, have a prior claim to the name; we would, therefore, most respectfully request of you to grant us our solicitation, prayer, &c.

We subscribe ourselves, very respectfully, fraternally yours.

George Finch, W. M.,
John E. Norris, S. W.,
Sam. L. Titus, J. W.,
John Borden, Treas.,
Robert H. Woolley, Jun., Sec'y,
George Houghton, S. D.,
Joseph W. Borden,
Moses Kirsch,
John W. Stout,
Elijah Combs.
Joseph Shepherd,
Robert W. Brower,
Mathew McDowell,
John S. Bishop,
Jno. R. Bergher,
Wm. Remson,
Geo. W. Stillwell,
Elisha W. Jeffreys,
E. W. Conover.

The Grand Lodge was called off till 2½ P. M.

2½ o'clock p. m.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Officers and Lodge representation as in morning session.

Bro. Isaac Van Wagoner, from the committee on that part of the Grand Master's address which refers to Eagle and Hoboken Lodges, U. D., asked leave to have power to send for persons and papers, and be allowed to sit in vacation of the Grand Lodge.

Past Master James M. Cassady, No. 15, moved that the committee have leave to send for persons and papers, and report to the Grand Master as soon as possible, and the

Grand Master have leave to call an emergent meeting. Agreed to.

Past Grand Master J. B. Munn, chairman of the committee on the Grand Master's address, presented the following, which was on motion received, and committee discharged.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey.

BRETHREN—Your committee, to whom was referred the report of the Grand Master, having examined the same, respectfully congratulate the Craft upon the high degree of prosperity which characterizes our jurisdiction.

It is evident, from that report, much time has been spent, and a large amount of labor performed, in visiting nearly every Lodge in person during the past year; and the almost unprecedented advance of the Craft, in the formation of new Lodges, and the resuscitation of old ones long since having ceased to work, is to be mainly attributed to the indefatigable zeal and unceasing assiduity of Grand Master Stewart.

Your committee would reiterate the recommendation of the Grand Master, as all important and of infinite value, not only to the Craft but to individual Masons, that every candidate should become proficient in his degrees taken before advancement to the higher and more sublime degrees.

Your committee recommend for confirmation the acts of the Grand Master during the year, and particularly in instituting Varick Lodge, Hoboken Lodge, Burlington Lodge, and —— Lodge, in Hunterdon county, and Eagle Lodge, in Hudson county, and resuscitation of Washington Lodge, formerly No. 41, and that warrants issue for the same, except for Eagle Lodge, in Hudson county.

In reference to the report of the Deputy Grand Master, we would respectfully recommend the officers and members of the Grand Lodge to the 4th Article of By-Laws of this Grand Lodge, page 31, &c., on the subject of Grand visitations.

Respectfully and fraternally submitted, with the accompanying resolution.

J. B. MUNN,
D. B. BRUEN,
SAMUEL READ.

January 10th, A. L. 5855.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be, and they are hereby tendered and given to the Most Worshipful Grand Master Edward Stewart, for the highly creditable manner in which he has performed the arduous duties of his office.

Varick Lodge, No. 31, was represented by Josiah J. Burgess, Worshipful Master, and D. S. Sinclair, Senior Warden.

Burlington Lodge, No. 32, John Rodgers, Worshipful Master, Ellwood Cannon, Senior Warden, and John F. Kelly, Junior Warden.

Washington, No. 33, James S. Green, jun., Worshipful Master.

The Grand Lodge called off for a short space of time, and then called on.

Past Grand Master J. B. Munn, of No. 1, and Bro. Rodman M. Price, of No. 11, were announced, and received in due form.

Nominations having been made for Grand Officers, the Chair ordered an election, and appointed J. Henry Black, No. 13, judge, Henry R. Cannon, No. 26, teller, and William C. Mott, No. 3, secretary; who, after holding an election, reported the following, as having the highest number of votes:

Grand Master—Edward Stewart, of No. 7.
Deputy Grand Master—Samuel Read, of No. 14.
Senior Grand Warden—John Dill, of No. 13.
Junior Grand Warden—John H. Janeway, of No. 27.
Grand Treasurer—Elias Phillips, of No. 5.
Grand Secretary—Joseph H. Hough, of No. 5.
Deputy Grand Secretary—John R. Chapin, of No. 10.

Past Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen, of No. 7, from the committee appointed at the last session on a preamble and resolution, to be found on page 189, [page 529 of this book,] presented the following report:

The committee to whom was referred the question, as to the right of Bro. John R. Crocket to a seat in the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Jersey, as a Past Master, report—

That they have carefully examined the book of minutes of Newark Lodge, No. 7, of which Lodge Bro. Crocket claims to be Past Master. They find, that, on the 24th day of December, A. L. 5833, (as recorded on the book of minutes) Bro. Crocket was elected Worshipful Master. They find no proceedings of the Lodge recorded from that period until September, A. L. 5836, at which meeting Bro. John C. Ball presided as Worshipful Master, and Bro. Crocket as Senior Warden. At that meeting the dues of every member of the Lodge was remitted. From that

period until January 11th, A. L. 5841, the proceedings of the Lodge are recorded with more regularity. From January 11th, A. L. 5841, until December 31st, A. L. 5841, there are no proceedings of the Lodge recorded. From October 18th, A. L. 5842, until February 14th, A. L. 5843, there are no records made. During the period that Bro. Crocket presided as the Worshipful Master of Newark Lodge, Free Masonry was at a very low ebb; it was with the greatest difficulty that officers could be got to serve, or members enough got together to open the Lodge. Little or no business was done, and the Lodge (during the periods named) was refused the use of the room they had occupied, and was obliged to meet at private houses, in order to keep a legal existence. From the untoward circumstances under which the Lodge labored, and the extraneous matters introduced, for the purpose of explaining the want of a perfect and regular record of the proceedings of the Lodge, your committee asks the indulgence of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

Your committee report, that the election of Bro. John R. Crocket, as the Worshipful Master of Newark Lodge, No. 7, is clearly established by the recorded proceedings of the Lodge. There are no records made of installation of Bro. Crocket, but the fact is established by the chairman of your committee, who personally called on Past Master John E. Ruckell, and invited him to attend Newark Lodge for the purpose of installing Bro. Crockett, and the subordinate officers of the Lodge, and accompanied him to the Lodge, and was present and witnessed the installation of Bro. Crocket, by Past Master John E. Ruckell, as well as the other officers of the Lodge. Bro. Crocket held the office of Worshipful Master of Newark Lodge for several years, and to him (whilst acting as the Worshipful Master of Newark Lodge) are they (as well as this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge) indebted for one of the most efficient and untiring laborers in sustaining this body in the darkest days through which it has passed; and, after years of perseverance, we still find him as active and zealous in sustaining the Craft as at any time of his life.

Your committee would recommend that this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge confirm Bro. Crocket as a Past Master under its jurisdiction.

All which is respectfully submitted.

DANIEL B. BRUEN,
ICHABOD HARRISON,
ALLEN OSBORN.

Newark, December 11th, A. L. 5854.

It was, on motion of Past Master Luther Goble, No. 1, that the report be received, laid on the table, and committee discharged.

Representation being made that it was supposed that charges having been made by the petition of Joseph Pilk-

ington, late of Eagle Lodge, U. D., against Hoboken Lodge, U. D., and referred to a special committee.

It was *Ordered*, That the members of Hoboken Lodge, U. D., have access to said petition.

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Navesink Lodge, No. 21, for change of name, made the following report; which was, on motion, accepted, and committee discharged.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

Your committee, to whom was referred the petition from Navesink Lodge, No. 21, Red Bank, requesting permission to change the name of that Lodge, report—having heard the reasons of the petitioners, recommend their prayer be granted, and the name of said Lodge shall be that of "Mystic Brotherhood," No. 21.

Submitted fraternally.

W. R. Todd,
Silas A. Thompson,
Benjamin Stewart.

The Grand Lodge was called off until 7½ o'clock P. M.

7½ o'clock p. m.

Past Master James M. Cassady, No. 15, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.

Application was made by Past Master James M. Cassady, of Camden Lodge, No. 15, to erase out of the original warrant of said Lodge the figure 4, and insert 1 in place thereof; which was on motion so ordered.

The committee on the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary made the following report; which was on motion received, and committee discharged.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey.

Brethren—Your committee appointed to examine into and report upon the accuracy of the accounts of the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary and Treasurer, would respectfully report:

Balance on hand last year	$232 05
Received from various sources this year	199 25
	$431 30
Paid out, as per vouchers,	415 45
Balance in Treasurer's hands	$15 85

Respectfully submitted.

W. M. Babbitt,
D. W. Dorman,
John Layton, Jun.

January 15, 1855.

The committee to whom was referred the report of the Grand Secretary, made the following report; which was, on motion, received, and committee discharged.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Officers and Brethren.

Having examined the report of the Grand Secretary, and finding it correct, beg leave to return the papers to you, and recommend the enforcement of the Grand Lodge By-Laws and Regulations.

Isaac P. Brown,
Robert C. Buzby,
Joseph Booth.

Past Deputy Grand Master Theodore R. Varick, No. 31, moved that a warrant issue to Hoboken Lodge, U. D.

After several motions and amendments, it was agreed to.

Hoboken Lodge, No. 35, was then represented by John W. Van Boskerck, W. M., and John T. Auchincloss, J. W.

The committee to whom was referred the matter contained in the resolution at the bottom of page 196 of the journal of 1854, [page 537 of this book,] made the following report.

It was, on motion of Past Mast Master James M. Cassady, No. 15, that the report be adopted, agreed to.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey.

Brethren—In accordance with a resolution, passed at the last regular communication of this Most Worshipful Body, the undersigned were appointed a committee for the purpose of raising the necessary funds among the Subordinate Lodges of this jurisdiction to defray the expense of a suitable stone, with appropriate devices and inscriptions, the same to

be presented, when completed, to the Central Committee of the Washington Monument Association, at Washington, D. C., and to be finally placed in that monument, as a token of the veneration and esteem we, as Masons of New Jersey, hold for the memory of Washington.

When that resolution was offered and committee appointed, it was our full intention to carry out the spirit of the resolution, and invite each Lodge to aid in paying this tribute of respect to our departed illustrious brother; but no immediate response having been made by any Lodge that was represented at our last regular communication, and whose representatives were aware of this call upon them, no more especial notice was given. The matter was thus left until June last, when one of your committee, being at Washington, visited the monument, and ascertained that the work was stopped for want of means. Upon due examination, it was impressed upon his mind, that if we wished to render effectual aid in the accomplishment of this great and patriotic work, we could do it far better by sending a votive offering of money, and by that means have a larger interest in that enterprise than if we should send a single stone. An appeal for financial aid has already been made to every Masonic Lodge in this and every State in the Union, by the central committee at Washington, and our pride, as Masons, strongly appealed to; and now, as a final resort, they have gone to the national congress for relief and appropriations.

As a committee, we make no suggestions for further action; but feeling confident that under the circumstances we have done right in referring the whole matter back to your worshipful body, we respectfully submit the above as our report.

CHAS. H. PIERSON,
ISAAC VAN WAGONER.

The Grand Officers were installed in ample form.

Deputy Grand Secretary John R. Chapin, No. 10, from the Committee on Education, referred to in the journal of 1854, on pages 195–6, [pages 536–7 of this book,] submitted the following report.

It was, on motion of Past Deputy Grand Master Theodore R. Varick, No. 31, *Ordered*, That the report be received and committee discharged, with the thanks of the Grand Lodge.

Upon a motion made to adopt, Bro. Isaac Van Wagoner, No. 29, moved to amend, to lay over, and be the special consideration of to-morrow morning; which prevailed.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey.

The committee to whom was referred, by resolution of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the last session, the subject of education, a

plan by which a fund might be raised and managed, and the recommendation of an institution best suited to our wants; and to whom also was referred the resolutions offered by the representatives of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, regarding a "Home for Free Masons," &c., beg leave most respectfully to report—

That they have endeavored to give the subjects referred to them that deep, serious and thoughtful consideration which their manifest and growing importance demanded at their hands.

Blest as we are by living under a free government, where the light of education shines over the length and breadth of the land—sheds its effulgent rays equally into the mansions of the rich and the humble cabin of the poor—and imparts its rich blessings to all with a freedom which permits all alike to sit in the light of its countenance, and partake of the enjoyments derived from its presence, it might appear to be supererogation on the part of an institution, which professes to be simply a charitable one, to legislate where legislation has already covered the ground and accomplished the object of offering a free education to all. But even this free education has a limit beyond which the poor and humble classes cannot advance, and the higher branches are comparatively shut out from their enjoyment by a wall which is only surmounted by pecuniary aid; and many, who might otherwise become bright ornaments to our day and generation, are compelled to forego those higher attainments which the want of means, alone, prevent them from acquiring. Here the genius of Free Masonry, with her christianlike charity, may, in her somewhat limited shere, step in and aid those, the care of whom devolves upon her, in reaching a higher and more extended range of study; in preparing them to fill superior stations, and, in fact, to place them upon an equality with those whose means enable them to monopolize the avenues to classical attainments.

How to extend the benefits of a thorough and complete education, and bring them within the reach of all, both high and low, both rich and poor, is no longer a subject of consideration to the benevolent and philanthropic alone, but has become a matter of jurisprudence, which has attracted the attention of the ablest minds, and engrossed the thoughts of the most profound statesmen; and your committee are of the opinion that the dissemination of the advantages of a liberal education to all classes in this country is only a question of time. Already has the initiative been taken by the establishment of free academies, which, although of but few years' growth, have practically shown that the system is one of vast usefulness and utility: and we sincerely believe that the present generation will be permitted to see the spread and enlargement of the system throughout our beloved land, until the possession of a classical education shall be only a question of intellectual, rather than of

pecuniary ability. This, however, should not deter us from entering upon this sphere of usefulness, but should rather serve as an incentive to an earnest, active and energetic exertion to aid in accomplishing so desirable an end.

How to exert our energies, how to accomplish the object aimed at, is a problem which occupied the attention of some of the most skillful workmen among the Craft, and the Grand Lodges of several of our sister States have attempted its solution by the erection of both male and female colleges, by the establishment of Masonic schools, and by the distribution of funds to their subordinates, for the purpose of educating the children of deceased Masons within their respective jurisdictions. The establishment and endowment of colleges, however, has been, in almost every instance, a failure; whether from radical defects in the plans adopted, or from the peculiar temper of the Craft, it would require a depth of research and a power of analysis on the part of your committee, which they are not qualified to bring to the task, to say. Missouri has one in a highly flourishing condition, and the Grand Lodge of Arkansas has taken the preliminary steps, on a somewhat extended scale, for the erection of one within its jurisdiction. Tennessee, Alabama, Kentucky and Mississippi have all made the effort, and failed; for although Tennessee and Kentucky still maintain theirs, one at Jarksville, the other at Lagrange, yet they are only nominally "Masonic." The experiment of Masonic schools seems to be a more successful one, so far as your committee have been able to learn, and hence we are led to the conclusion that the cause, or one of the causes, of the failure of the larger institutions has been the attempt to do too much with limited means. Let us profit by the experience of others, and endeavor to avoid the difficulties under which they labor and the obstacles they have had to encounter.

Before proposing a plan of operations, however, for the advancement of education, let us glance at the second branch of the subject referred to us. We must not lose sight of the fact, that it is not the orphan, alone, who has a claim upon our sympathies and charitable feelings, but that the widow and the indigent among our brethren have an equal right to share our bounty and partake of our liberality.

The establishment of a "Home for Indigent Free Masons, their Widows and Orphans," is a suggestion which ought to warm the heart, expand the sympathy, and call forth the earnest approbation of every rightly constituted member of our Craft. The institution which we so love to adore, and to which we are bound by the strongest ties, professes to be actuated, next to the general good of mankind, by a desire to promote each other's welfare, and that of the feeble ones dependent upon our bounty and exertions. That this great and ennobling principle is not practised and carried out to the extent which circumstances demand, and the ability of the Craft will allow, is a fact which even the most unob-

servant will admit. There appears to be a lukewarmness on the part of the Craft, in the performance of the duties which they owe to the institution, by the practice of the principles it inculcates, which can only be accounted for by the lack of some object of tangible and substantial importance to call forth the energies and concentrate the exertions of all. Such an object we recognize in the suggestions offered in the resolutions referred to your committee, and we earnestly hope and trust that such an institution may one day grace our State, as a memento of the vitality of Masonry, and the activity of the principle of charity, by which we profess to be governed. It would be useless to point out the advantages of such an establishment, or to enlarge upon its beauties, as these must present themselves to the mind of every Mason, who is actuated by the principles of brotherly love, relief and truth.

Your committee are aware, however, that within the limited sphere bounded by the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, with the limited means at its command, and at the present period of depression in the pecuniary affairs of our country, it would be folly to recommend the establishment of such an institution as that proposed, or even a Masonic college; still they feel that a beginning can be made, and an effort attempted, which though small at first, may result in great attainments. Rome was not built in a day, nor were the pyramids erected in a year, yet the one became the mistress of the world, and the others stand as enduring monuments of what can be accomplished by united, concentrated and continuous efforts. Let us, then, make a commencement in the good work With a consciousness of the integrity of our purpose, let us put our shoulder to the wheel, cheering each other with kind words should any excel, and contending only as to who can best work and best agree in our efforts to carry out the aim in which all are alike interested. Let us not be discouraged at small beginnings, nor deterred in pursuing our object by the comparatively small results of our first essays, but with a firm determination to do all in our power, let us move steadily onward toward the attainment of our purpose. So shall we possess the sweet consciousness of having performed our duty, and feel repaid for our exertion by the knowledge that we have aided in assuaging the grief of the wretched, drying the tear of the mourner, and educating and assisting the friendless and the fatherless.

With the view, therefore, of presenting an object around which to concentrate our united exertions; with a desire to make a commencement, and with an ardent hope that that commencement may result in the creation and endowment of an institution which shall unite in its plan the relief of the indigent, the protection and support of the widow, and the education of the orphan, your committee would respectfully make the following suggestions, viz.: the establishment, in the city of Trenton, or at some other central point, of a high school or academy, which shall be

under the management of a Board of Education, elected by this Grand Lodge, to which shall be admitted all the children of indigent Masons who shall have acquired the rudimental branches of a common school education, and who shall be recommended by the Lodge having jurisdiction. Such children to be educated and boarded during a term of years out of the general fund for that purpose. That brethren, who have the ability to pay for board and schooling, be invited to send their children to such school, and thus aid in the advancement of the object by contributing support thereto. A building of sufficient capacity to meet the wants of the institution might be leased, and a sufficient number of teachers employed to answer all its requirements for the first few years, until an increase in the fund, and a corresponding increase in the wants of the school, should justify a larger outlay and increased privileges.

To aid in the establishing of a fund for the purpose of carrying out such an enterprise, your committee would suggest that the dues of Subordinate Lodges be increased to fifty cents for every member thereof, and the fees for new members increased to one dollar; that all the receipts of the Grand Charity Fund, over and above the necessary expenses of the Grand Lodge and the sum of one hundred dollars, be paid over to the school fund, and that the Subordinate Lodges be invited and requested to contribute their funds, and raise voluntary subscriptions among their members for that purpose.

Your committee have not deemed it necessary, nor are they called upon to elaborate the details of the above plan, as those may safely be left to a future day, when the prospect of success to the enterprise shall appear to call for them, and when the amount realized toward the fund will serve as a guide to govern the Grand Lodge in the premises.

In conclusion, your committee would offer the following preamble and resolutions for the adoption of this body:

Whereas, The cause of education is one which is daily attracting the increasing attention of all classes of our citizens, the necessity and importance of enlarging the facilities of attaining to the more full and complete enjoyment of its advantages, and the desire to enable the humble classes to compete with the more wealthy in the race for higher attainments, is a growing one; *and whereas*, the principles which we love to profess teach us to heal the sick, relieve the distressed and educate the orphan; *and whereas*, at the present time when, from the revolution in the pecuniary affairs of our country, want and misery stalk abroad through the land, and there are many thrown out of employment whose circumstances, if known to others of the Craft more fortunately situate, might be relieved, and whose services might be engaged in various ways—therefore be it

Resolved, That for the purpose of creating a fund for the establishment of an academy under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, the dues from members of Subordinate Lodges to the Grand Charity Fund be increased

to fifty cents for each and every member, and that one half of said fifty cents be sacredly appropriated to such school fund.

Resolved, That all the receipts of the Grand Charity Fund, over and above the necessary expenses of the Grand Lodge and one hundred dollars, be paid over to the said school fund, and invested in such a manner as may appear to be to the best interest of said fund, until it shall amount to a sum sufficient to warrant the Grand Lodge in establishing an institution of learning commensurate with our wants.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to draw up an address to the Subordinate Lodges, soliciting subscriptions and contributions toward furthering this project, and that they be empowered to print 250 copies thereof, at the expense of this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary and the Deputy Grand Secretary be, and are hereby made a means of communication between the indigent Mason, the widows of such, and those out of employment, and those among the Craft who may need the services of either, and that all such be invited to make their wants known through their means.

All of which is most respectfully submitted by your committee.

JOHN R. CHAPIN,
E. STEWART.

Deputy Grand Secretary John R. Chapin, No. 10, offered the following:

Resolved, That the first day of each annual communication be set apart for the exemplification of the work, that a uniformity may be established throughout the State.

On a motion to adopt, Bro. J. Henry Black, No. 13, offered the following as a substitute, which was agreed to.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with the Most Worshipful Grand Master of this Grand Lodge on establishing a correct and uniform system of Masonic work, and that the same be exemplified before an Emergent Grand Lodge, to be called at the will and pleasure of the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

Committee—J. H. Black, No. 13, J. M. Cassady, No. 15, and Milton Baldwin, No. 7.

Deputy Grand Master Samuel Read, No. 14, offered the following, and moved it be laid on the table until to-morrow morning; which was agreed to.

Whereas, Information has been given to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Jersey, that a body of men, assuming to be Ancient York Masons, have been located at Hoboken, and within the jurisdiction of

this Grand Lodge, working under an assumed and spurious Grand Body in the jurisdiction of New York, known as St. John's Grand Lodge, of which Henry C. Atwood is Grand Master; *and whereas*, this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge hold and claim the right, *only*, to issue warrants for Lodges of Ancient York Masons within her jurisdiction—therefore,

Resolved, That all Lodges and all persons hailing from Lodges located within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, without her consent and authority, are and shall be held as spurious and clandestine, and cannot be recognized by any genuine Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons hailing from Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, under the seal thereof, be hereby directed to inform the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New York Ancient York Masons, of which the Most Worshipful Joseph D. Evans is now Grand Master, of the location of this spurious body of men, and respectfully urge them to assist in rebuking these unmasonic and illegal movements.

Past Master James M. Cassady, No. 15, offered the following resolution, which was on motion adopted.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare rules of order for the government of this Grand Lodge.

Committee—Past Master James M. Cassady, No. 15, Deputy Grand Master Samuel Read, No. 14, and Joseph H. Hough, No. 5.

Bro. Charles H. Pierson, No. 1, moved that when this Grand Lodge adjourn it adjourn to meet at the city of Newark, on the first Wednesday after the second Tuesday in January next; which motion was laid on the table until to-morrow morning.

Bro. Josiah J. Burgess, No. 31, offered the following resolution, as an alteration to General Regulations, section 11; which was laid over until to-morrow morning.

No brother can be master of a Lodge until he has first served in the office of warden somewhere, unless in extraordinary cases or in the formation of a new Lodge, and no past or former warden is to be found among the members.

The Grand Lodge was then called off until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

THURSDAY MORNING, 9 o'CLOCK.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor, with a due representation.

Past Master Moses Craig, No. 8, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That Clinton Lodge, No. 8, have permission to remove the location of the Lodge from Peapack to Baskingridge, Somerset county.

It was ordered that leave be granted.

The report of the Committee on Education, laid over last evening, was called up and debated.

The resolutions thereto attached were, on motion, taken up separately. After debate at some length on the subject, and several votes taken on different resolutions,

It was *Ordered*, That the whole subject be indefinitely postponed.

Deputy Grand Master Samuel Read, No. 14, called up the report of the committee, which was laid on the table last evening, whether Bro. John R. Crocket, No. 7, is a Past Master.

The previous question being called, a motion to adopt the report was carried in the affirmative.

The committee to whom was referred the subject of mileage and *per diem* allowance to a representative from each Lodge, to be found in the report of last session [page 538], made the following report.

It was *Ordered*, on motion of Past Master James M. Cassady, No. 15, that the subject be indefinitely postponed:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Jersey.

The committee appointed at the last meeting of this Grand Lodge in reference to the resolution on page 538, beg leave to report that one representative from each Subordinate Lodge shall receive from the funds of this Grand Lodge seventy-five cents for each twenty miles travel, going to and returning from this Grand Lodge; and also receive one dollar and fifty cents per day for attendance, provided the representative remain until the close of the session.

JOHN DILL,
ROBERT C. BUZBY,
ELIAS PHILLIPS.

The resolution offered by Deputy Grand Master Samuel

Read, No. 14, read and laid over till this morning, relative to the organization of a clandestine Lodge at Hoboken, was called up and adopted.

Bro. Charles H. Pierson, No. 1, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master be and hereby is requested to enforce, in all the Lodges of this State, Section 5 of the Ancient Constitution of Masonry, as found in Ahimon Rezon, relating to the election of Masters and their necessary qualifications.

On a motion to adopt, the Chair decided that the resolution lay over till the next annual meeting, as an amendment. The decision was appealed from.

Question taken on the appeal, and Chair sustained.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented the following report, which was on motion received, and ordered to be printed:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Jersey.

Another year has rolled round since we last met in Annual Communication, and, under the care and protection of the Supreme Grand Master of the Universe, we should feel grateful for the many blessings we enjoy, and for the pleasure of again meeting together in harmony and brotherly love.

The correspondence from foreign Lodges has become very voluminous, and as each year revolves, it increases the interest we feel in each other's welfare, and to profit by the experience of others in legislating for the benefit of the Craft. The committee have the printed journals from the several Grand Lodges as follows: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Kentucky, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, District of Columbia, California, Minnesota, Michigan and Canada West.

From each Grand Lodge we read the cheering intelligence that the spirit of Masonry is progressing with unparalleled speed; peace and harmony seem to prevail (with a single exception) over the whole extent of our observation. Never was the Fraternity more flourishing, nor the character of the petitioners better in their standing in society than at the present time.

We have taken each Grand Lodge separately, and, having intended to view them with an impartial eye, trust nothing herein will be found to

cast the reflection upon us that our review is in the least unjust. Were we to do our duty strictly, we should make this report of much greater length, as the material is at hand wherein can be found all that is necessary for the builder's use.

MAINE.—The proceedings of this Grand Lodge before us was held at Mason's Hall, in the city of Portland, May, 4th, 1854, with a representation from forty-eight Lodges. Most Worshipful Timothy Chase was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Charles B. Smith, Grand Secretary.

The annual communication of the Grand Master congratulates them on the peace and harmony that prevail among them, and that a unity of sentiment and kindly feeling may characterize their intercourse as Masons; and that in their jurisdiction Masonry is not only rapidly advancing, but has taken an elevated position. Old Lodges, that have laid dormant for years, have been resuscitated, and a new life seems to have taken root.

The greater part of his report is upon their own internal affairs, and on the whole we should draw the conclusion that they are a prosperous and happy family.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—Their annual meeting was held at Concord, on the 13th and 14th of June, A. D. 1854. Ichabod G. Jordan was elected Grand Master, and Horace Chase, Grand Secretary.

VERMONT.—Their annual meeting was held at Burlington, on the 11th day of January, A. D. 1854.

The Grand Master (Most Worshipful Philip C. Tucker) announced the death of the Rev. Joel Winch, who was Grand Chaplain of that Grand Lodge, and pays a touching tribute to his memory.

Masonry, in this jurisdiction, seems to be steady in its onward march under the good guidance of able and experienced workmen.

MASSACHUSETTS.—The proceedings comprise several meetings, to wit, September 14th, December 14th and 27th, 1853, March 8th, June 14th, and September 13th, 1854.

Most Worshipful and Rev. George M. Randall was again installed as Grand Master, and Charles W. Moore, Recording Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master, in his address, (December 27th, 1853,) speaking of the condition of the Fraternity in his State, says: "The year just closed has been one of almost unprecedented prosperity. According to the returns made by the District Deputy Grand Master, it appears that three hundred and seventy have been initiated, the past year, in eight districts," "of which number one hundred and eighty were in the first district. These simple statistics express, more forcibly than any words of mine can

do, the gratifying fact that our ancient Fraternity has secured a high place in the estimation and confidence of the community."

CONNECTICUT.—Annual Communication held at New Haven, the 10th day of May, A. D. 1854.

Most Worshipful David Clark was re-elected Grand Master, and Eliphalet G. Storer, Grand Secretary.

Grand Master Clark, recommends, among other matters, a Masonic library, that the "members may have access to such works as treat upon Masonic jurisprudence and the principles of Masonry generally."

Such recommendations, if more generally followed, would be productive of great benefit to all concerned; information would be diffused, and the results would be felt by all within its influence.

In respect to the Grand Lodge of New York, he recommends "that no visitor hailing from that State be admitted in any of their Lodges, unless properly avouched for, and acknowledging the Grand Body over which the Most Worshipful Reuben H. Walworth was elected to preside, as the only true and lawful Grand Lodge in that State; and that he must be a member of a Subordinate Lodge under that jurisdiction, and all others who do not, to be spurious and clandestine." He cautions all their members who may visit Lodges in New York, "lest, by mistake or design," they "should be found in one of these clandestine Lodges, for it is easy to distinguish the wheat from the chaff." The committee to whom was referred this subject, reported that the view taken by the Grand Master met their hearty and entire approval.

On the 26th of April last, a Special Communication was held at the hall of Union Lodge, in Danbury, for the purpose of celebrating the completion of a monument erected to the memory of Bro. David Wooster; and on the day following, an oration was delivered by Bro. Henry Champion Deming, which we have before us, containing sixty pages.

The committee of the Grand Lodge, to whom was referred this subject, submitted the following resolutions, which were adopted:

"*Resolved*, That we congratulate the Masonic Fraternity on the completion of the splendid monument commemorative of our late distinguished brother, General David Wooster, deceased, late Worshipful Master of Hiram Lodge, No. 1, New Haven, organized under his auspices in the year 1750, who gloriously sacrificed his life at Danbury, in the defence of that town against the incendiary incursions of the enemy, in April, 1777.

"*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are eminently due, and they are hereby tendered, to our Most Worshipful Grand Master, David Clark, for his interesting assiduity and indomitable energy in forwarding to a successful and glorious completion that noble enterprise."

We have read with admiration and pleasure the copious and well digested report on Foreign Correspondence, containing one hundred and eleven pages of their journal.

NEW YORK.—The proceedings of this Grand Lodge, from August 16th, 1853, to June 11th, 1854, inclusive, containing two hundred and fifty-three pages of closely printed matter, is before us. Most Worshipful Joseph D. Evans, Grand Master, and James M. Austin, M. D., Grand Secretary.

At a meeting of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, held September 27th, 1853, charges having been preferred for unmasonic conduct against Bro's Richard Thune, Charles W. Willets, Robert B. Folger, Charles G. Waterbury, Andrew J. Fisher, Reuben S. Van Tassel, Robert E. Roberts, and John B. Ewing, who, after being summoned to appear, and failing to obey, were expelled.

At a meeting of said Grand Stewards' Lodge, held February 28th, 1854, "the appeal of Bro. Philip Haas against the action of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, in electing a brother to honorary membership by *show of hands, and against the expressed objection* of a member, came up for consideration. The testimony on both sides having been received, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

"Bro. Philip Haas *against* St. John's Lodge, No. 1.—This is an appeal from the action of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, in electing a brother to honorary membership by show of hands, and against the expressed objection of a member. An answer was put in by the Worshipful Master of St. John's Lodge, No. 1—first, denying the truth of the matters stated to be facts in the appeal; and second, affirming that 'if the statements of facts are proven to be true, still the action of the Lodge was right.'"

It appeared, during the investigation, that the denial, by the Worshipful Master of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, of the truth of the statements of fact contained in the appeal was either based upon a misapprehension, or arose from a want of clearness in drawing up the appeal itself. The Worshipful Master of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, put in his answer, under the impression that the appellant affirmed, in his appeal, that the grounds of his objection, as therein set forth at length, was identically expressed in the Lodge at the time the objection was made; whereas the appellant disclaims intending to be so understood, admitting that the objection *only* was made in the Lodge, while the reasons for making it are detailed in his appeal; and he insists that this is what the language of his appeal conveys, when fairly construed. With this explanation, the first part of the answer, impeaching the veracity of the statements made in the appeal, was withdrawn, leaving a single question of law to be settled by the Grand Stewards' Lodge, on a statement of facts substantially admitted, viz.: Was the action of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, correct in electing an honorary member by show of hands, and in opposition to the expressed objection of a member of said Lodge?

The introduction of honorary members into Lodges, though a modern usage, is recognized by the Grand Lodge, though the mode of their election and their rights and privileges are nowhere particularly defined.

The Grand Stewards' Lodge can perceive no impropriety in electing honorary members, but it should be in the ordinary manner, by ballot, and a single black ball should prevent the election of the proposed candidate.

The ancient and time-honored landmarks of the Fraternity clearly sanction this view of the question. In Article LXX of the Constitution, it is provided that no person shall be made or admitted a member of a Lodge without being proposed one Lodge night before; that due notice be given to all the members to make the necessary inquiries into the candidate's character, and that there may be such unanimity in the election and admission of members as the laws require; nor can there be any dispensation in this case, because unanimity is essential to the well-being of every Lodge, and its own members are the best judges in this matter; for if it were allowed that any foreign, or even superior jurisdiction, might impose a fractious or disagreeable member upon them, it might destroy their harmony, and would intrude upon their liberty, to the great injury, if not the total dissolution of such Lodge.

The reason assigned for guarding thus vigilantly the individual rights of the Fraternity is, that no fractious or disagreeable member be imposed upon a Lodge, by whom its harmony might be destroyed; and as the peace and harmony of a Lodge may be as effectually destroyed by the admission of an honorary member, as a constitutional one, the Grand Stewards' Lodge agree unanimously that no majority in the Lodge, or any other power, has the right to impose such upon a Lodge, against the expressed objection of one of its members; therefore,

"*Resolved*, That the appeal of Bro. Philip Haas from the action of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, so far as it relates to electing an honorary member in opposition to the expressed objection of one of its members, *is sustained.*

"*Resolved*, That, in the opinion of the Grand Stewards' Lodge, honorary members, in Subordinate Lodges, should be proposed and balloted for in the same manner as constitutional members, and cannot be elected by show of hands or majority vote."

The aforementioned case we have taken the liberty to insert entire, being of a nature that we do not often meet with in any of our exchanges, and also from such high authority; it cannot but be viewed with care. If we take a right view of the case, it contemplates two classes of membership, constitutional and honorary—the former permanent, and the latter temporary. Such classes of membership, we are induced to believe, would not act harmoniously, nor do we believe would be productive of good results; and further, they should place all upon a *level*, for why should any one have advantages which are denied to others?

At the quarterly meeting, held March 7th, 1854, a preamble and resolution were offered, in effect that the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts has required of the members of that State, when visiting Lodges in their

jurisdiction, a Grand Lodge certificate, which they deem, and is calculated to be particularly obnoxious to the members of the Grand Lodge of New York, by virtue of their union, and contrary to all Masonic usage and custom. A committee of five was appointed to prepare a report, and afterward was amended by inserting, "and also the Grand Lodge of Maryland."

Upon page 176, we find the report of the committee to whom was referred the subject above mentioned, and, after a careful examination of the written history of Masonry, from the period of its re-establishment in England, early in the tenth century, a diligent scrutiny of the ancient landmarks and usages of the Fraternity, and mature deliberation, they consider the action of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts an innovation upon ancient usage, and an improper and dictatorial interference with their just rights; and they repudiate the doctrine that because there are knaves in the State of New York, the rational and constitutional liberties of its honest citizens must therefore be abridged. The police of Boston will be commended for their igilance in the detection of suspicious characters, but the arrest, indiscriminately, of every visitor from New York, who is not provided with documents to prove his fraternity and establish his antecedents, will soon occasion reprisals, and lead to open hostility.

This is strong and unmistakable language to their brethren of Massachusetts, who have only pointed out what seemed to them to be their duty, where some decided course or stand was deemed necessary and advisable.

The report further says, that, by this action, Massachusetts in effect arrogates to herself a censorship of the Craft within the acknowledged jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and assumes to decide that those affirmed by us to be good and true, are actually illegal and clandestine Masons. That Massachusetts is justifiable in pursuing any Masonic course to protect her Subordinate Lodges from imposition, is readily admitted; but that she possesses any right to enter a sister jurisdiction, and sit in judgment upon the Masonic character of members in good standing, under a Grand Lodge recognized by herself, in common with the whole Masonic world, is peremptorily denied. She is at liberty to refuse Masonic intercourse with our Grand Lodge, if she justly fears contagion from contact with any of our members; but we know of no law or usage which authorizes her to distinguish between our loyal Lodges or members, and decide that some are legal and others illegal.

They cover some three pages more of closely printed matter in their argument of the reasons why the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts should not recede from the position they have taken, and recommend the following preamble and resolution:

"*Whereas*, The Grand Lodge of the State of New York is sincerely desirous to cultivate fraternal relations with the Grand Lodge of Massa-

chusetts, in common with the great Masonic family throughout the world; *and whereas*, the adoption of certain resolutions by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, at its communication in December last, in reference to visiting members of Subordinate Lodges from New York, must tend to disturb, if not ultimately to destroy, those relations—therefore,

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts be affectionately and earnestly requested to reconsider said resolutions."

Also, at the same quarterly meeting mention is made of a committee, appointed at the last quarterly communication, to investigate certain charges preferred by Bro. F. T. L. Boyle againgt the Right Worshipful F. G. Tisdall, late the representative of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey. The whole subject was postponed until the annual meeting. On motion, the charges came up at the quarterly meeting of March 8th, last past, when the following resolution was offered:

"*Resolved*, That the case be remanded to the committee, to take all the testimony that may be offered on either side; let all the witnesses sign their depositions, and the committee report the whole testimony to this body, at our next June communication, at which time either party may move to strike out all illegal evidence."

After which the previous question was called for and carried.

On the following evening, the report and recommendation of the committee on said charges were called up and adopted, and so declared by the Chair, expelled from all the rights and privileges of Masonry; after which notice was given by the Right Worshipful John Van Buren, that he would, at the next annual communication, appeal from the decision of the Grand Lodge in relation to said expulsion.

On page 88, Bro. "Van Buren called up the special order, being the appeal of F. G. Tisdall," and presented a memorial, which was referred to the committee on the condition of Masonry, praying for a revisal of the decision of the charges against him, upon certain grounds therein specified.

"*First*. Being a member of a Subordinate Lodge, was amenable for his conduct to his own Lodge, and not to any other.

"*Second*. The complainant was not a member of the Grand Lodge.

"*Third*. The Grand Lodge had not original jurisdiction of the matter."

He prays the revisal upon the ground that they "received and entertained illegal and improper evidence" upon hearsay; secondary, written and printed, not verified or authenticated; witnesses to give opinions: and persons not Masons, and "refused to allow the accused to introduce legal and proper evidence" that the complainant was incorrect; that the witnesses were mistaken, and not entitled to credit; and finally, prays to be restored to his rights as a Mason; and that the charges may be sent to St. John's Lodge, to be fully and fairly investigated, that he may establish his innocence in the premises.

On page 181 of said journal, "the committee on the condition of Masonry," to whom was referred a memorial from him, "praying to be restored to the rights of Masonry, and that the charges preferred against him may be sent to St. John's Lodge, No. 1," of which he was a member, for trial and investigation, reported that they were of opinion that some of the proceedings in the said memorial mentioned were and are erroneous, and that he was *illegally condemned and expelled*, and ought to be restored to his rights and privileges, and should be investigated by the Subordinate Lodge to which he belonged.

The committee, "without deciding upon the question, whether the Grand Lodge had jurisdiction in the matter referred to in the said memorial, express it as their opinion that it is inexpedient, if not unlawful, for the Grand Lodge to assume original jurisdiction of charges made against a member of a Subordinate Lodge, and whom such Subordinate Lodge has power to try," and submitted resolutions that his expulsion be rescinded; that said charges and specifications be transmitted to the Lodge of which he was a member, to be investigated in a legal and Masonic manner. The subject was, on motion, laid on the table.

On page 189, the above report and resolutions were called up and adopted, and also the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge ought not to exercise original jurisdiction to try a member of a Subordinate Lodge which is in good standing, and which is not acting in hostility to the Craft, constitution or jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge for any Masonic offence, other than offences against this Grand Lodge, when such member is subject to trial by the Subordinate Lodge to which he belongs."

The above case we have read with some degree of interest, for it involves a principle beyond doubt correct. Were it not so, a Grand Lodge would be subject to a lengthy calendar of causes that would take some time to adjudicate, without, perhaps, having the best means of getting all the facts connected with the cause from the remoteness of the location where it originally came from. We most heartily concur in the principle therein decided.

The annual meeting was held on the 6th day of June last past, Most Worshipful Reuben H. Walworth, Grand Master, presiding, Right Worshipful James M. Austin, Grand Secretary. Two hundred and twenty-one Lodges represented.

The Grand Master, after acknowledging the protection of the Grand Architect of the Universe, congratulates them upon the rapid increase and the continued prosperity of the Fraternity within their territorial limits.

Since their last annual communication, twenty-six dispensations for the opening of new Lodges have been granted, making, together with what is already organized, two hundred and eighty-six, with about fifteen

thousand in membership; and that the "irregular and clandestine Lodges connected with any and all of the spurious and schismatic Masonic organizations in the State, of every kind, does not probably exceed twenty-five or thirty."

He very properly condemns the practice of some Lodges in the desecration of the Christian Sabbath by the opening of a Lodge for labor on that holy day, and calls the attention of the Grand Lodge to these irregularities, as they should not, at any time or under any circumstances, be allowed. Even those members of the Fraternity who keep the seventh day of the week as holy time, must so far respect the feelings and wishes of their brethren, and of the Christian community in which they reside, as not to violate the sanctity of the Sabbath, and thereby wound the feelings of their brethren, and bring discredit upon the institution of Masonry.

And, in conclusion, he announced his intention not to permit his name to be used as a candidate for re-election to the office of Grand Master; having tried it for one year, he has not the requisite leisure to discharge the duties as they ought to be discharged, and says: "I cannot consent to be a Masonic drone, to enjoy the honors of this situation, without rendering to the Grand Lodge a proper equivalent in services therefor."

The committee on the division of the Grand Lodge, consisting of the Grand Master and ten other members, to wit, five from the city of New York and five from the country, submitted a lengthy and able report of their deliberations, and the reasons which governed them. They passed, in their body, the following resolution (two dissenting):

"*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this committee, there should be but one Grand Lodge in the State of New York, to continue, as it is, the representative and head of the whole Masonic Fraternity; and that a division of the jurisdiction is inexpedient."

The minority of the committee on the same subject presented a very lengthy report of their views, spread over nearly fifteen pages of the journal, and after considering and discussing the powers of the committee on the question at issue, arrived at the conclusion that it is a failure, from its not having inquired what were the real wishes of the Masonic body in that jurisdiction, and the resolution reported by the majority, "that there should be but one Grand Lodge in the State, is but the individual opinion of that majority;" and in conclusion, suggesting "a line of division, embracing, for the southern body, Delaware, Green and Columbia counties, and all south and east of them; and for the other body, all other portions of the State; that the records and archives of the Grand Lodge be kept in the city of New York, and access be had by officers and committees of each body; the regalia and other property to be valued by disinterested parties, and received and paid for by one or the other, by the casting of lots, and the funds equally divided.

after paying all just demands; that a joint committee of both bodies be appointed to take charge of the suit now pending with the Phillips body, and all expenses be paid by both Grand Lodges, share and share alike, and all properties and funds that may accrue be equally divided between them; and report the following resolutions:

"*Resolved*, That in view of past difficulties, and those now existing, and having their origin in the antagonistic interests of city and country, and with a view to the ultimate harmony of the Craft, and the furtherance of its true interests, this Grand Lodge will divide into two separate and distinct jurisdictions, with such distinctive titles as may be agreed upon, mutually acknowledging each other's sovereignty in the particular district of the State assigned to it.

"*Resolved*, That a committee of ten, equally divided between the city and country, be appointed by the Grand Lodge, with instructions to consider and prepare such arrangements as may be necessary to carry out the resolution in a just and equitable manner, and report during the present session."

After considering the aforesaid report, the following resolution was submitted by the committee and adopted:

"*Resolved*, That there should be but one Grand Lodge in the State of New York, to continue, as it is, the representative and the head of the whole Masonic Fraternity in the State, and that, therefore, a division of the jurisdiction is inexpedient."

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, noticing our proceedings of 1853, says:

"The report on Foreign Correspondence is from the pen of Bro. John Whitehead, and is a very modest, yet tastily written document. From the intelligence it exhibits in its author, we would have been happy to have had his views upon several important topics to which he alludes.

"On page 159 of their proceedings, we notice a preamble and resolution, which was designed, as appears, to institute inquiries about the standing of Pythagoras Lodge, in New York city, with the view, if circumstances called for it, to discipline members of Diogenes Lodge, No. 22, in Newark, for exchanging visits with the members of the former. The resolution was, on motion of Bro. John H. Landell, of No. 1, *laid on the table*. The *record* does not show the reason why this disposition was made of the resolution, for your committee believe there must have been some weighty consideration that influenced the act. If the members of Pythagoras Lodge are permitted, with the knowledge and tacit consent of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, to exchange visits with members of Lodges in that jurisdiction, it is equivalent to recognizing the authority of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, or any other European Grand Lodge, to establish Lodges wherever in the United States they may see fit. It

is, in fact, telling Hamburg, if she sees fit to locate a Subordinate Lodge in the city of Newark, they will interpose no obstacles to her so doing; which, if allowed, will not only overthrow the supremacy of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, within her own jurisdiction, but will colonize her towns and cities with a kind of Masonry that is unknown to her own antique and beautiful system, and that will as certainly overrun and swallow up that system, as that ambition is a quality of the human mind. But it seems to us that there is another principle involved in the case, which has been forcibly and pointedly, and, speaking for the *present* New York committee, we think *correctly*, announced by an able and intelligent New Jersey committee on the subject of jurisdictional authority, whose report we have before alluded to. The language of that committee is, 'the committee peremptorily deny the right of all others to interfere with the just and lawful jurisdiction and authority of this Grand Lodge.' This is a sound principle. It is based upon the unquestionable right of each and every Grand Lodge to legislate and to act for itself; to make or unmake symbolic Lodges within its jurisdiction; to declare what are regular and what are irregular, and to suspend, expel or restore its disobedient and refractory members. We say, then, that the principle so announced by New Jersey is just, and must be allowed to be exercised by all Grand Lodges, or there is an end of harmony and stable Masonic government. But how will our much esteemed and respected sister of New Jersey reconcile this principle with even a *quasi* recognition of the members of Pythagoras Lodge? After long endurance of the unjust encroachment, and repeated remonstrances of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, requesting and soliciting her to withdraw her charter, because it was in contravention of our laws, in violation of the authority justly claimed by every Grand Lodge in the American Union, and after being told, by her, that she had *weighed the consequences and should persist*, we declared that Lodge *irregular and clandestine*, and positively forbade our members to hold Masonic intercourse with it or its members. The sacred rights of New York, its dearest interests, and the interest of every Grand Lodge in America, *demanded* this act to be done, and it *was* done. Now, is it not an interference with this decision? is it not disregarding and setting at nought the rightful 'authority of this Grand Lodge,' to cover that clandestine Lodge and its irregular Masons with the mantle of irregularity? We think it is; and we hope that our brethren of New Jersey will reconsider their action. Confiding in their high sense of justice, and in their regard for their own interests and for the rights of others, we believe they *will* reconsider it."

PENNSYLVANIA.—The proceedings of this Grand Lodge are for the Annual Grand Communication, held in the city of Philadelphia, December 27th, A. L. 5853. Fifty Lodges were represented.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master, Anthony Bournonville, delivered his valedictory address; after which resolutions were passed, unanimously, giving the thanks of the Grand Lodge "for the courteous, gentlemanlike and truly Masonic manner with which he has presided over" them during his late administration; and also, that a written testimonial to that effect, embodying their assurance of respect and fraternal regard.

And also, similar resolutions to John Thomson, who for ten years has been Grand Treasurer, and for "valuable and faithful services."

The address of James Hutchinson, Most Worshipful Grand Master elect, delivered on St. John's day, December 27th, A. L. 5853, in which he promises "to adhere strictly to the principles of the Fraternity, keeping a watchful eye to the preservation of their purity, all the ancient usages, customs and landmarks of the Craft."

Also, the ceremonies of laying the corner stone of the new Masonic Hall, in Chestnut street, and the oration delivered by Bro. John K. Mitchell, M. D., Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden.

Delaware.—From this State we have the two journals of proceedings for June 27th and 28th, 1853, and June 27th, 1854.

In the journal first aforesaid, we find the address of Most Worshipful Grand Master William T. Read, wherein he returns his thanks for the honor of being three times elected Grand Master, and a full and comprehensive biographical sketch of Cæsar Augustus Rodney, an ancient Mason of very respectable standing, who filled important positions both in State and Lodge.

Among other matters, we perceive a preamble and resolutions recommending the installation of a National Grand Lodge of Masons.

Most Worshipful James Booth was installed Grand Master, and Right Worshipful George W. Chaytor, Grand Secretary.

In the journal of June 27th, 1854, nothing of importance transpired which we deem of sufficient moment to call your attention to.

Most Worshipful James Booth was re-elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Daniel R. Wolfe, Grand Secretary.

Maryland.—The journals of this Grand Lodge are from May to November, 1853, and from November, 1853, to May, 1854.

In the semi-annual communication, held in the city of Baltimore, November 21st, 1853, nothing therein occurs of importance, except the just and merited tribute to departed worth upon the demise of Bro. Joseph K. Stapleton, who, for a period of nearly fifty years, was a devoted Mason, and true and faithful to its interests.

In the journal of the semi-annual communication of May 8th, 1854, held in the city of Baltimore, we notice a preamble and resolutions to the effect that there is not a sufficient uniformity of work throughout the

State, and a resolve that each Lodge in Baltimore send one delegate to a Lodge of instruction, to be held at said city on the 25th of July, then next, to be under the supervision of the Grand Master; but it does not appear that they were acted upon.

VIRGINIA.—The proceedings for the Old Dominion were held at the city of Richmond the 12th day of December, A. D. 1853, A. L. 5853.

Most Worshipful Edmund P. Hunter, Grand Master, and John Dove, Grand Secretary, and a representation from eighty-two Lodges.

The special committee on work, to whom was referred that important subject, made a report, which was confirmed, and appended thereto a series of fifteen resolutions, providing for a Grand Working Committee, to sit during the session or recess of the Grand Lodge; and no alteration or addition be made for any reason; and if a Grand Lecturer should be appointed, defining his duties, powers, &c.

This is a subject that requires more than a passing consideration; something more than a mere allusion or effort to bring into being a system to produce uniformity in the work of the Fraternity, which, no doubt, will be attended with a good result, both to the Grand Lodge and the Craft.

Could but each and every State adopt a similar committee.

The report of the committee on the subject of non-affiliated Masons, was presented and adopted. We beg leave to copy a portion of their report, which seems to throw a vast deal of light and reason upon the subject.

"By the term non-affiliated Masons, we understand those who have been regularly initiated, passed and raised, and are not connected by membership with any Lodge. It has been for years past a source of serious and grave complaint within the limits of various Grand Masonic jurisdictions in the United States, and especially in Virginia, that there is a large number of non-affiliated Masons, who claim as a right all the benefits and privileges of the institution, and who, notwithstanding, refuse or fail to contribute either labor or money to its support. Many of these are unknown to the active working portion of the Craft, until some festive or gala occasion tempts them from their retirement, and induces them to go unbidden (and if the whole truth must be told, unwelcome, too,) to a feast purchased at the expense of others, and to which they have taken especial pains not to contribute, either directly or indirectly. Did the evil stop here we might submit without a murmur, or content ourselves with a simple appeal to the sense of delicacy and propriety of our non-affiliated brethren. But this is, in truth, the very least of all the evils of this system, a system which, we take this occasion to say, is utterly at war with all the principles and tenets, and condemned by every rule and precept of Masonry;" and concluding with resolutions that they

are not entitled to all the rights and benefits of Masonry; that it is the duty of every one to join a Lodge, and that the subordinates give notice to such within their respective jurisdictions.

We cannot see why Masons who do not belong to any Lodge, nor contribute to its support, either directly or indirectly, can have any just claim upon it, or the Fraternity, just when circumstances require it.

South Carolina.—The proceedings from this Grand Lodge are for the year 1853.

At their quarterly communication, held in the city of Charleston on the 7th day of June, among other matters, was the presentation of a protest against the action of Pythagorous Lodge, No. 21, by a member of said Lodge, on which the Grand Master had issued his prohibition.

It appears that a candidate was rejected at four communications of the Lodge, all upon the same letter of petition, the latter ballot on the meeting in March.

At the regular meeting in April following, the same application was re-read, when the protestant was absent with others. The applicant was voted for and admitted to his first degree. At the meeting in May following, the brother protested against his advancement; but the Worshipful Master overruled it, and the candidate admitted to the second degree, and prayed for the prohibition, which was granted. The subject was referred to a committee, who reported at the quarterly communication, held the 6th of September, the same year, that the Master acted contrary to Masonic law and usage.

And they further say—"In permitting a reconsideration of the letter of application" of the candidate at a subsequent meeting, that application having been previously rejected; and also, "in omitting to order a ballot, when" the protestant "objected to the advancement of" the candidate, the committee say: "We hold that, so soon as objection was made in open Lodge to the promotion of a candidate, it was the duty of the Master to have *ordered* the ballot to be taken; and it seems to us that Bro. Caminade, having declined to require it (admitting this to have been proved, merely for the sake of argument,) should not have influenced the conduct of the Master, for there may have been other brethren present equally opposed to the advancement of Bro. Dusenbury, who, from a natural diffidence, or from some other cause, were unwilling to state, in open Lodge, that they objected to the candidate, but who, nevertheless, would have negatived his further progress. It was the duty of the Master, and not of Bro. Caminade, to determine whether a ballot was necessary. And he (the Master) should have remembered that it does not follow, as a matter of course, that a brother admitted among the household as an apprentice to learn the mystic art, is capable of taking charge of that household, however skilled he may be in his apprenticeship; for there are many

very necessary qualifications essential in those who are promoted to the highest ranks of the Fraternity." (Mackey's Ahiman Rezon, ch. 3, § 1, ¶ 9, p. 63.)

Resolutions were passed enjoining and prohibiting said Lodge from conferring the Master's degree upon the candidate; the Master be publicly reprimanded by the Grand Master in open Grand Lodge, and the candidate be permitted to apply to any other Lodge for the Master's degree.

GEORGIA.—The Grand Lodge held their annual communication, in the city of Macon, on Tuesday, the 25th day of October, A. L. 5853, with a representation from one hundred and sixty-two Lodges, and eight under dispensation.

The Grand Master says, "that Masonry in Georgia is onward, doing good, and embracing among its votaries many of the wisest and best of our people," of all professions and occupations.

The Southern Masonic Female College, located at Covington, in Newton county, has been dedicated, and put into successful operation.

FLORIDA.—The proceedings of this Grand Lodge, met in annual communication at the city of Tallahassee, January 9th, A. L. 5854. Most Worshipful Thomas Hayward, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful John B. Taylor, M. D., Grand Secretary.

The address of the Grand Master seems to be wholly engrossed with the powers of a Grand Master, wherein he very ably treats that subject in an argumentative and forcible manner. He says, "the action of Grand Master B. D. Hyam, of California, in making *Masons at sight*, without the assistance of a Lodge, has been the prolific source of Masonic debate throughout the Grand Lodges of the Union." He refers to a resolution, passed, in the nature of a protest, by Milwaukie Lodge, No. 3, recognising the right and authority of the Grand Master to confer the three degrees of Masonry upon a candidate in a *regular constituted Subordinate Lodge* by dispensation, but *protests* against the power of making Masons at sight without the assistance of a Lodge.

The committee, to whom was referred the address aforesaid, after mature deliberation, passed the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Master of a Grand Lodge possesses delegated powers only, and as the power to initiate, pass, and raise, are not delegated to a Grand Master to be exercised at will, he can confer those degrees only in a Subordinate Lodge, and in accordance with Masonic law and usage."

They passed a preamble and resolution adopting the proposed plan for a Supreme Grand Lodge of the United States, as recommended by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

ALABAMA.—The proceedings of this Grand Lodge, now before us, are of the annual communication held at the city of Montgomery, beginning the 5th day of December, A. L. 5853; Most Worshipful David Clopton, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Amand P. Pfister, Grand Secretary.

One hundred and sixty-five Lodges were represented.

The Grand Master announced it as a painful duty to report the decease of Right Worshipful George W. Gaines, Grand Junior Warden.

MISSISSIPPI.—The proceedings of this Grand Lodge, held at the city of Jackson, January 16th, A. L. 5854, containing 400 pages, is before us.

Most Worshipful Carnot Posey, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful William P. Mellen, Grand Secretary.

One hundred and twenty-five Lodges represented.

Addresses were read from the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, and District Deputy Grand Masters of sixteen of seventeen districts, wherein are nothing of a special nature which we deem of sufficient importance to call your attention to at this time; yet at the same time we must say, that it is of that nature which any Mason would read with delight; matters referring entirely to their own internal affairs, of which we are pleased to say, that every thing appears peaceable and harmonious.

In the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, they, in speaking of the proceedings of the "National Masonic Convention," hold this significant language:

"Your attention is particularly called to the power confessed in the words, 'that all matters of difficulty which may arise in any Grand Lodges, or between two or more Grand Bodies of the same Fraternity, which cannot by their own action be satisfactorily disposed of.' If we understand this, it seems that difficulties between individuals and the Grand Lodge, under whose jurisdiction they live, may be taken up to the proposed body by either party. The presumption is, that by 'two or more Grand Bodies of the same Fraternity,' is meant two or more Grand Lodges.

"The first difficulty to be met with in this proposition is, that the opinions of the first Grand Lodge, if an influential one, might have an undue influence. Another suggests itself, that we might be called upon by a two-third vote, to sanction proceedings which we utterly abhor, and which no known inducement would make us comply with. If it were a case requiring counsel, it would involve the parties in too much expense, and the richest treasury would have the advantage in the contest.

"It becomes this Grand Lodge to consider this proposition well; perhaps other evils may be found in it. Certainly there is a great want of definiteness in the propositions to which you are invited to pledge yourselves. Who is to determine, for instance, what amounts to a sufficient importance?

"Any of the propositions for a General Grand Lodge were better than this, in the opinion of your committee; and as we believe that no arrangement of details, as proposed to be made in the convention of ratification, can lessen the power agreed upon, but that the tendency will be to increase it; we humbly submit that it would be better to say, at once, that we cannot accede to the proposition.

"*Resolved*, That not believing that sufficient good would result from the organization proposed by the National Masonic Convention, held at Lexington on the 17th of September last, to overbalance the evils which would arise therefrom, the Grand Lodge of Mississippi respectfully declines entering into such organization."

In giving the above for your consideration, we are satisfied nothing on our part can make the case more clear or forcible than the plain, simple, and brief extract from the committee of our sister State. The subject itself has nothing to recommend it, but a desire to modernize what we should term an *innovation*, so far as American Masonry is concerned, which has resulted in good, a system in practical use for over one hundred years, and we hope for time immemorial, to stand the test as long as the republic itself. Inasmuch as our ideas are much the same as theirs, as to the feasibility of such proposed organization, time will demonstrate it.

Louisiana.—The proceedings of this Grand Lodge bear date January 16th, A. L. 5854, at an annual communication held in the city of New Orleans. Most Worshipful William Perkins was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Samuel G. Risk, Grand Secretary.

Thirty-two Lodges were represented.

The Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master William L. Knox presided, who submitted an address, announcing in feeling terms, "for the much loved, the revered, and ever to be lamented Brother Harry R. W. Hill, their late Most Worshipful Grand Master," and submitted matters of a local nature, and not of enough interest to insert here.

The report on foreign correspondence is very brief, in which there is nothing of importance to call your attention at this time.

Masonry seems to be very prosperous within their jurisdiction, with a steady increase in Lodges and members.

Texas.—The seventeenth annual communication of this Grand Lodge is before us, held in the town of Rusk, Cherokee county, on the 16th of January, A. L. 5854.

Most Worshipful William M. Taylor, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful A. S. Ruthven, Grand Secretary.

Seventy-nine Lodges represented.

The Grand Master, in his address, recommends "that some action be

taken by this Grand Lodge in protesting against the action of Lodges in othes States in receiving and acting on the petition of those who may be visiting, or temporarily residing among them. Several instances have been presented to me, and serious difficulties have arisen in Lodges and among brethren in our jurisdiction, in consequence of some who may have been rejected here, or who may be unworthy, being received by Lodges of other States while on visiting or business tours, and returning immediately legally constituted Master Masons, and seeking admittance, as visitors, in the very Lodges where their petitions had been rejected.

"We have engrafted a very safe provision in our constitution, for our own protection, of not allowing a petition to be received until a year's residence in the State."

We entirely concur in the very judicious and proper course proposed by the Grand Master, and must say that the evil might be met by the plan suggested, if the several Grand Lodges would but incorporate it as a law of their jurisdictions. The practice of violating the jurisdiction of others, in accepting petitions from candidates, when there is one nearer, without their consent, is very unjust, and the evil should be remedied by very stringent measures.

In looking through the able and well digested report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, we find a resolution, which properly belongs, and no doubt intended to express the decided stand they have taken in regard to initiating non-residents.

"*Resolved*, That no Lodge under this jurisdiction shall recognise, as a regular made Mason, a resident of this State, who may, during a temporary absence therefrom, receive the degrees in Masonry without the consent of the Lodge under whose jurisdiction he may reside."

ARKANSAS.—The annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held at Little Rock, on the 7th of November, A. L. 5854.

Most Worshipful Luke E. Barber, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Thomas D. Merrick, Grand Secretary.

Forty Lodges represented.

The Grand Master's address is an excellent production, abounding in information on general topics, and very interesting. He refers to a matter of very general complaint, that of traveling mechanics "capable of going from Lodge to Lodge with a piteous tale of suffering, fabricated for the purpose of working upon the sympathies of those whose hearts and hands are ever open to the cry of distress, will submit to any test that we may offer him; and there is no safety from imposition by any ordeal to which we can subject him." The remedy for which he leaves to the Grand Lodge.

On the subject of a Supreme Grand Lodge, he doubts, "whether any good would result from such a confederation."

The Committee on Masonic Law and Usage, in the endeavor to secure a uniformity of work, adopted, "as the only legal and legitimate text book and monitor, 'the Masonic Trestle Board,'" published by Bro. Charles W. Moore, of Boston; and they further recommend that it be the duty of the Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master to report to the Grand Lodge an abstract of the decisions on questions of Masonic law, usage, and practice; and, also, a committee was appointed to revise, collate, and digest, in proper form for publication, the former decisions, resolutions, and edicts, with notes and references, for the use of their several Subordinate Lodges. A great deal more matter of a very interesting and useful nature might be gleaned from the same rich source, but our limits will permit but a short sketch at present.

Kentucky.—The proceedings of this Grand Lodge before us, is for the Grand Annual Convocation, held in the city of Lexington, the 28th day of August, A. L. 5854.

Most Worshipful Marcus M. Tyler, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful John M. S. McCorkle, Grand Secretary, with a representation from one hundred and seventy Lodges.

We also acknowledge the receipt of a copy of "Constitutional rule for the government of the Grand and Subordinate Lodges" of said State.

The Grand Master in submitting his annual address, says, "prosperity unexampled, and without a check, rests upon Free Masonry under this Grand Lodge jurisdiction," and reports twenty-eight Lodges organized under dispensation.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, among other matters, resolves, that a General Grand Lodge, &c., "would be calculated to work an evil to the interests of Symbolic Masonry in the United States, and, therefore, this Grand Lodge declines to engage in it."

The late Grand Secretary, Philip Swigert, presented a communication, that he was made a Mason in 1819, and the year following, a representative to the Grand Lodge, when the "lamented Hon. Henry Clay was elected and installed Grand Master." Having filled the office of Grand Secretary for the space of twenty-one years, he desired to withdraw from its active duties. We should say, "well done good and faithful servant."

Ohio.—The proceedings before us are of the annual meeting, held at Chilicothe, October 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th, A. L. 5854.

Most Worshipful William B. Dodds, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful John D. Caldwell, Grand Secretary. Two hundred and six Lodges represented.

The late Grand Master, Lucius V. Bierce, in his annual address before the Grand Lodge, among other matters, calls attention "to the expediency of a revision and republication, in permanent form," of their proceedings since its organization.

Illinois.—The proceedings of this Grand Lodge, being the fourteenth Grand Annual Communication, held in the city of Springfield, on the 3d day of October, A. L. 5853, together with Anderson's "Ancient Constitutions," ordered to be printed with the proceedings.

Most Worshipful William B. Warren, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Harman G. Reynolds, Grand Secretary.

We have read with pleasure the able and comprehensive report of Most Worshipful E. B. Ames, their late Grand Master, wherein he handles Masonry in general with a ready pen, and also the committee on Foreign Correspondence and Masonic Jurisprudence are very interesting, and we are well satisfied the Craft would be better informed, if all such suggestions could be generally diffused among the Fraternity.

This volume, containing 318 pages, is made up of various matters, such as—number of non-affiliated members, 901; number reported in 121 Lodges, 3862; showing a total in the State of 4763.

Number of initiations in 121 Lodges, 1055; and what we have never seen before, is the occupations of the members, and their ages when they joined.

Indiana.—The session of this Grand Lodge was held in the city of Indianapolis, on the 22d day of May, A. L. 5854.

Most Worshipful Henry C. Lawrence, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Francis King, Grand Secretary.

One hundred and sixty-one Lodges represented.

The report of the Grand Master seems wholly of that nature wherein we can not glean anything that would be interesting here.

Wisconsin.—The proceedings before us are of the annual communication held at Janesville, Rock county, June 13th, A. L. 5854.

Most Worshipful Henry M. Billings was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful William R. Smith, Grand Secretary.

Their session seemed to be very harmonious, and we should infer that they were very prosperous; their business appears to have been of an internal nature.

Iowa.—We have their journal of proceedings, being the eleventh Grand Annual Communication, held in the town of Mount Pleasant, on the 6th day of June, A. L. 5854.

Most Worshipful James L. Hogin was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful T. S. Parvin, Grand Secretary.

Forty-three Lodges were represented.

We also acknowledge a copy of their Constitution, By-Laws and General Regulations.

MISSOURI.—The proceedings before us are of the annual meeting, held in the city of St. Louis, May 22d, 1854, A. L. 5854.

Most Worshipful L. S. Cornwell was elected Grand Master, and A. O'Sullivan, Grand Secretary.

A representation from sixty-six Lodges.

The (then) Deputy Grand Master, in his address to the Grand Lodge, after noticing matters which pertain to their jurisdiction, in speaking of the success of their college, says:

"It affords me great pleasure in being able to announce to you the almost unprecedented prosperity of the Masonic College. The Grand Lodge of Missouri may justly congratulate herself upon being the pioneer in a most glorious enterprise. She has begun and carried forward to completion, an experiment that other Grand Bodies, much older and possessing greater advantages than herself, appeared unwilling to undertake; the honor seems to have been reserved for the Craftsmen laboring at the West Gate; they nobly begun the work, and the Supreme Grand Master of the Universe smiled upon and blessed their efforts; let us, therefore, return unto Him our heartfelt thanks and rejoicing. We now have an institution based upon the purest principles of morality and philanthropy; principles that are as immutable as those that uphold the universe; principles upon which men of every country, sect and opinion can unite; principles that know no north, no south; principles that are alike impervious to the dogmas of sectarian bigots or political demagogues; principles that have arisen above the unholy bulls of a corrupt church and the denunciation of unprincipled politicians; principles of pure benevolence, around which the cardinal virtues delight to cluster; principles that have enlisted the earnest attention of the wise and virtuous of all ages; a theme that the angels of heaven delight to dwell upon."

There were reports presented by the president of the board of curators, as likewise from the president of the college, which show the highly flourishing condition of the institution.

The committee on the subject of the college report the total sum employed in education by the Grand Lodge to be $83,773.92, and say: "In less than twelve years, then, the Grand Lodge and Fraternity of Missouri have accomplished this undertaking. When the resolutions to establish the college were introduced into the Grand Lodge, there were about thirty Lodges only, with a membership of less than four hundred. The Grand Lodge had not then one dollar of surplus funds to appropriate, and the Fraternity of the United States were without one institution of learning. The contributions of the Craft for charity were in a large degree wasted upon the undeserving, and our orphans went into the world without education. Now contemplate the change in our situation. The establishment of the college mainly, with other influences, have augmented the number of Lodges to one hundred and thirty, and the members to more

than four thousand. Many of the best and wisest of men, being convinced of the good intentions of the Grand Lodge on the subject of education generally, and of the poor especially, have presented themselves at our doors for admission, that they, too, might be permitted to participate in so glorious an enterprise."

The ninth annual catalogue of said college shows a list of one hundred and eighty-one students.

District of Columbia.—The pamphlet before us contains the proceeding of this Grand Lodge, from May 3d, 1853, to December 27th, 1853, inclusive.

At the annual meeting, Most Worshipful William B. Magruder was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Charles S. Frailey, Grand Secretary.

We see nothing of special interest to communicate.

California.—The proceedings of this Grand Lodge was held in Sacramento City, on May 2d, A. L. 5854.

Most Worshipful William H. Howard was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Levi Stowell, Grand Secretary.

Twenty-nine Lodges were represented.

Minnesota.—The proceedings of the second annual communication, held in St. Paul, on January 2d and 3d, A. L. 5854.

Most Worshipful A. E. Ames, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Henry Reynolds, Grand Secretary.

We hail with pleasure the first appearance of this sister Grand Lodge among the numerous others in the Union, and hope we may annually have the pleasure of exchanging fraternal greetings.

Michigan.—The proceedings from this Grand Lodge is for the annual meeting, held in the city of Detroit, on the 11th of January, A. L. 5854.

Most Worshipful George W. Peck was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful James Fenton, Grand Secretary.

Forty-one Lodges were represented.

Upon a perusal of their pamphlet, we find it very interesting, but nothing of sufficient interest to particularize.

Canada West.—The proceedings of this provincial Grand Lodge is from the meetings of the 20th of May, 1853, to the 25th of October, 1854, inclusive.

They have forty-six Lodges.

We also acknowledge the By-Laws of St. John's Lodge, No. 491, of Kingston, established the 7th of August, A. L. 5794, commencing with the names of the first three officers from that date to the present time.

We here close our report.

J. H. Hough, *Chairman.*

Deputy Grand Secretary John R. Chapin, of No. 10, offered the following resolution, which was decided out of order:

Resolved, That the committee to whom was referred the petitions of two individuals, named Joseph Pilkington and Rees P. Francis, be requested to read such petitions to the Grand Lodge.

The motion, submitted yesterday, relative to the change of holding the next Annual Communication from Trenton to Newark, was called up, and decided out of order by the chair, as it is not proposed in writing as an amendment.

Past Master James M. Cassady offered the following resolution; which was on motion adopted.

Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master be requested to open the next annual communication of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge in at least fifteen minutes after the time fixed for opening; and that the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary be instructed not to receive any returns or money from Subordinate Lodges after the hour appointed during the session, so that the business of this Grand Body may be facilitated by the enforcement of its regulations.

Deputy Grand Secretary John R. Chapin, of No. 10, offered the following amendment to Constitution; which was laid over.

Insert, after the words "Deputy Grand Secretary," in section eight, the words "Grand Chaplain," and strike out, in section nine, the words "Grand Chaplain."

Past Master James M. Cassady, of No. 15, offered the following preamble and resolution; which was unanimously adopted.

Whereas, Subordinate Lodges, under the jurisdiction of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, located in the southern part of this State, experience much annoyance from the frequent and almost weekly practice of Subordinate Lodges located in Philadelphia, working under the authority of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, of receiving the applications of persons residing in this State, and passing them through the several degrees of Masonry, without regarding the rights of this jurisdiction—therefore,

Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master, under the seal of this Grand Lodge, respectfully request the Most Worshipful Grand Lodges of Pennsylvania and New York to take such action as in their wisdom may be neeessary to protect the subordinates of this Grand Lodge adjacent to

their jurisdiction, in not allowing subordinates, working under tha jurisdiction, to entertain petitions for the honors of Masonry from persons residing in this State, without consulting the subordinate nearest the place of the residence of such applicant, and that the consent of said subordinate so consulted shall be requisite for the reception of any applicant.

Bro. James Green, Jun., of No. 33, offered the following amendment to Constitution, section eight; which was laid over.

To insert the words "and Past Masters of Subordinate Lodges," after the words "Past Grand Officers."

The Grand Secretary presented and read several bills for payment, which were referred to a committee, as follows: Bro. Charles H. Pierson and Isaac P. Brown, of No. 1, and Henry R. Cannon, of No. 26.

Past Master James M. Cassady, of No. 15, offered the following amendment to article 1, section 1, By-Laws, which was laid over.

"So that this Grand Lodge shall determine at each annual communication the place where the next communication shall be held."

The following resolution was adopted:

That the number of Washington Lodge, formerly No. 41, be changed to No. 33.

Bro. John C. Rafferty, No. 34, moved that the Lodge dispensated as Central Lodge, No. —, at Whitehouse, Hunterdon county, have the name changed to "Stewart Lodge, No. 34." Agreed to.

Bro. Deputy Grand Secretary John R. Chapin, No. 10, offered the following, as an amendment to section 11, By-Laws, which was laid over.

Section 11, insert the words "in such Lodge," after the words "who obtains the benefits of Masonry."

The Grand Lodge was called off until 2½ o'clock.

2½ O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

The committee to whom was referred the several bills for examination, made the following report, which was, on motion, adopted.

Report of committee on inspection of bills presented for payment.

The committee appointed to audit the following bills, presented to this Grand Lodge for payment, would respectfully report that they have examined the same, and would recommend that they be paid, viz.:

Joseph H. Hough, salary, $200, postage, &c., $14.50	$214 50
Grand Master Edward Stewart, travelling expenses	108 50
Deputy Grand Master Theodore R. Varick, travelling expenses	11 85
Senior Grand Warden Jacob W. Morris, travelling expenses	31 00
Junior Grand Warden John Dill, travelling expenses	17 00
Deputy Grand Secretary John R. Chapin, travelling expenses	7 00
Senior Grand Deacon A. C. Beam, travelling expenses	5 25
Grand Tyler Amos Howell	6 00
Phillips & Boswell, printing journal	86 20
Trenton State Gazette, advertising notice of meeting	3 10
Warren Journal, advertising notice of meeting	2 00
	$492 40

Respectfully submitted.

CHARLES H. PIERSON,
ISAAC P. BROWN,
HENRY R. CANNON.

Junior Grand Warden John H. Janeway, No. 27, offered the following preamble and resolution, which was, on motion, adopted.

Whereas, Many discrepancies and ambiguous phrases exist in the Constitution and By-Laws of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey—therefore be it

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to revise the whole Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, taking into consideration the many amendments already offered, and that they report at the next annual communication; and the rules of order, when adopted, be incorporated with the said Constitution and By-Laws, when adopted."

The Chair appointed John H. Janeway, No. 27, Jeptha B. Munn, No. 1, and John Rodgers, No. 32, such committee.

It was *Ordered*, That an appropriation of ten dollars be made to defray the expenses of the Grand Chaplain.

It was, on motion of Isaac Van Wagoner, No. 29, *Ordered*, That the committee on printing be authorized to audit and settle the bill for printing this journal, when done satisfactorily to them.

The committee having charge of the amendment offered by Past Master William Kerwood, on page 198 of last year's journal, [page 539 of this book,] relative to advancing the dues from twenty-five cents to fifty cents, was requested to report this afternoon.

It was *Ordered*, That the Grand Secretary be requested to have corrected and reprinted the list of Lodges under the Grand Lodge of the State of New York with this journal.

The committee to whom was referred the amendment offered by Bro. Past Master William Kerwood, No. 5, relative to increasing the dues of the Grand Lodge, made the following report:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey.

The committee appointed on the tenth section of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge, beg leave to report—that they have attended to that duty; that they would recommend that the sum of fifty cents be inserted in place of twenty-five cents.

JOHN DILL,
ROBERT C. BUZBY,
ELIAS PHILLIPS.

The Chair appointed the following Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the current year—Joseph H. Hough and Egbert H. Grandin, No. 5, and Charles A. Skillman, No. 12.

It being represented to the Grand Lodge that, since the last annual meeting, Past Master Elias Van Arsdale has departed this life—

It was *Ordered*, That a committee of three be appointed to draw a preamble and resolutions expressive of the loss this Grand Lodge has sustained by his decease.

The Chair appointed Deputy Grand Master Samuel Read, No. 14, Past Master James M. Cassady, No. 15, and Grand Secretary Joseph H. Hough, No. 5, who reported the following:

Whereas, The Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey has learned with pain and deep regret of the death of their beloved Brother Elias Van Arsdale, Past Grand Master of this Grand Lodge—therefore,

Resolved, That the deeply afflictive dispensation of Divine Providence which has cut down, in the midst of his days, this highly and esteemed member of our Fraternity, and removed him, in an unexpected hour, far from the toils and trials of this sublunary world to the peaceful shore of a happy and blessed eternity, calls for humble submission to the wise Master who rules over all, while it becomes us to cherish the most grateful and lasting recollections of his Masonic and christian virtues.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge bear testimony to the great worth of their departed brother, whose whole life, as a man, a Mason, whose public services in the cause in behalf of Masonry, richly entitles his memory to this respectful notice from us.

Resolved, That we deeply sympathize with his family, in the great and irreparable loss they have sustained.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary enclose a copy of the aforesaid preamble and resolutions to the family of our deceased brother.

The minutes of the meeting were read, and, on motion, approved.

The Grand Master made the following appointments:

Rev. and W. John L. Lenhart, of No. 7, Grand Chaplain.
Isaac P. Brown, of No. 1, Senior Grand Deacon.
James M. Cassady, of No. 15, Junior Grand Deacon.
Charles E. Stewart, of No. 1, Grand Marshal.
Samuel Quicksall, of No. 5, Grand Steward.
George Finch, of No. 21, Grand Steward.
William Beach, of No. 23, Grand Swordbearer.
Samuel B. Scattergood, of No. 5. Grand Pursuivant.
Amos Howell, of No. 5, Grand Tyler.

The Grand Lodge closed in harmony and due form, to meet again, at the city of Trenton, on the first Wednesday after the second Tuesday in January next, unless sooner convened by the proper authority.

Trenton, January 11th, 5855.

JOS. H. HOUGH, *G. Secretary.*

Abstract of Lodge Returns, &c., and account of moneys received by Grand Secretary.

LODGES.	No.	New mem.	Old mem.	Total mem.	Warrant fees.	Certificates.	Dues.	Total.
St. John's	1	14	101	115	.....	.....	$32 25	$32 25
Brearley	2	7	50	57	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cincinnati	3	6	43	49	.....	$1 00	13 75	14 75
Tuckerton	4	4	20	24	.....	.....	7 00	7 00
Trenton	5	3	32	35	.....	.....	13 50	13 50
Lebanon	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Newark	7	32	92	124	.....	3 00	38 25	41 25
Clinton	8	1	7	8	.....	.....	4 25*	4 25
Washington	9	7	48	55	.....	5 00	15 50	20 50
Franklin	10	3	20	23	.....	.....	6 50	6 50
Union	11	5	60	65	.....	.....	17 50	17 50
Amwell	12	15	24	39	.....	.....	13 50	13 50
Warren	13	13	48	61	.....	.....	18 50	18 50
Mount Holly	14	7	36	43	.....	.....	12 50	12 50
Camden	15	24	44	68	.....	.....	23 00	23 00
Olive Branch	16	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hiram	17	13	73	86	.....	1 00	24 75	25 75
Harmony	18	4	23	27	.....	.....	.....	.....
Union	19	10	28	38	.....	.....	12 00	12 00
Rockaway	20	12	26	38	.....	.....	12 50	12 50
Mc. Brother'd	21	10	9	19	.....	.....	7 25	7 25
Diogenes	22	2	21	23	.....	2 00	6 25	8 25
Harmony	23	9	35	44	.....	.....	13 25	13 25
Prospect	24	4	14	18	.....	.....	5 50	5 50
Northern	25	11	25	36	.....	1 00	11 75	12 75
Jerusalem	26	12	13	25	.....	.....	9 25	9 25
La Fayette	27	8	18	26	.....	1 00	9 00	10 00
Mt. Moriah	28	12	11	23	$25 00	.....	8 75	33 75
Joppa	29	16	8	24	25 00	.....	10 00	35 00
Cape Island	30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Varick	31	36	26	62	25 00	18 00	48 00	61 00
Burlington	32	.....	15	16	25 00	.....	.....	25 00
‡Washington	33	18	14	32	.....	.....	12 50	12 50
Stewart	34	.....	.....	.....	25 00	.....	.....	25 00
Hoboken	35	16	9	25	25 00	.....	33 00	33 00
		234	994	1228	$150 00	$32 00	$384 75	$566 75

* Two years. ‡ Resuscitated.

JANUARY SESSION, 1856.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honarable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at the Odd Fellows' Hall, corner of Hanover and Greene streets, in the city of Trenton, on Wednesday and Thursday, January 9th and 10th, A. L. 5856, A. D. 1856, there being

PRESENT,

M. W. EDWARD STEWART, Grand Master.
R. W. SAMUEL READ, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN DILL, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOHN L. JANEWAY, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. ELIAS PHILLIPS, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Grand Secretary.
R. W. JOHN R. CHAPIN, Deputy Grand Secretary.
Rev. & W. JOHN LENHART, Grand Chaplain.
W. ISAAC P. BROWN, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
W. JAMES M. CASSADY, Junior Grand Deacon. p. t.
Bro. AMOS HOWELL, Grand Tyler.

Past Grand Masters.—Jeptha B. Munn, No. 1; Daniel B. Bruen, No. 7; Joseph W. Scott, No. 19.

Past Deputy Grand Masters.—John Garside, No. 25; Theodore R. Varick, No. 31.

Past Masters.—Simeon Baldwin, No. 1; David Naar, No. 5; Milton Baldwin, No. 7; Robert Laird, No. 9; Allen Osborne, No. 10; William M. Babbitt and Simeon Harrison, No. 11; William Wilson, No. 12; George Finch, No. 21; William Liebe, No. 22; Isaac Van Wagoner, No. 29; Josiah J. Burgess, No. 31; James S. Green, jun., No. 33.

Visitors.—A. S. Dodd, No. 1; James S. Yard, No. 5; Edward I. Pitcher, No. 9; George W. Condit and Morgan Robertson, No. 11; Elijah Combs, No. 21; Stephen O. Horton, No. 26; John W. Miller and James R. Dean, No. 29; Morris K. Crane, No. 35; John F. Schenck and John C. Coon, Darcy, U. D.; Robert S. Green, John A. Perrine and George Thompson, Princeton, U. D.; Orrin Vanderhoven, Darius Wells, and Daniel A. Beam, Paterson Orange, U. D.; Henry L. Martin, Baldwin, U. D.; J. C. Munn, No. 8, Nashville, Tennessee; Charles S. Bernard, No. 330, New York.

LODGES REPRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

William S. Whitehead, W. M., Henry S. Boyden, S. W., St. John's, No. 1.

Not represented, Brearley, No. 2.

Job J. Lewis, S. W., Cincinnati, No. 3.

Not represented, Tuckerton, No. 4.

Edward W. Scudder, W. M., Charles C. Van Horn, S. W., Charles G. Updike, J. W., Trenton, No. 5.

David S. Plume, W. M., Newark, No. 7.

Not represented, Clinton, No. 8.

George A. Tator, W. M,, Joseph T. Laird, J. W., Washington, No. 9.

Oliver H. Taylor, W. M., William H. Sherman, S. W., Franklin, No. 10.

William B. Williams, W. M., William P. Condit, S. W., Union, No. 11.

Not represented, Amwell, No. 12.

" " Warren, No. 13.

George W. Curtis, W. M., Levi Davis, S. W., Mount Holly, No. 14.

Joseph Trimble, proxy for W. M., Camden, No. 15.

Not represented, Olive Branch, No. 16.

John Hilton, W. M., William H. Doggett, S. W., James W. Low, J. W., Hiram, No. 17.

Not represented, Harmony, No. 18.

George Taylor, W. M., Union, No. 19.

Not represented, Rockaway, No. 20.

Samuel L. Titus, W. M., Mystic Brotherhood, No. 21.

George Burgesser, W. M., Diogenes, No. 22.

Not represented, Harmony, No. 23.

Silas A. Thompson, proxy for W. M., Prospect, No. 24.

Levi Sanford, W. M., Northern, No. 25.

Henry R. Cannon, W. M., John Layton, jun., S. W., Jerusalem, No. 26.

Crowell Marsh, W. M., Lafayette, No. 27.

Robert C. Buzby, W. M., Mount Moriah, No. 28.

Richard B. Chiswell, W. M., John Hopper, J. W., Joppa, No. 29.

Not represented, Cape Island, No. 30.

Albert A. Rice, S. W., J. Thomas Walsh, J. W., Varick, No. 31.

Ellwood Connor, W. M., John F. Kelly, S. W., Burlington, No. 32.

Wallace L. Crowell, W. M., Lewis W. Oakley, J. W., Washington, No. 33.

Marston D. Trefren, W. M., Elijah R. Hall, S. W., Stewart, No. 34.

John W. Van Boskerck, jun., W. M., Francis M. McDonough, S. W., Hoboken, No. 35.

Twenty-four Lodges represented.

The Throne of Grace was addressed by Past Master William Wilson, of No. 12.

The secretary proceeded to read the minutes of the last annual session.

Past Master Henry R. Cannon, of No. 26, moved that the further reading of the minutes be dispensed with. Agreed to.

The minutes of the special meeting, July 10th, last past, were read; and as the accompanying papers to the Grand Master's address were not spread on the minutes, it was ordered that they be attached thereto.

No objection appearing, the minutes were approved.

It was *Ordered*, On motion of Past Master William M. Babbitt, of No. 11, that the minutes of the Special Communication be not printed.

The address of the Most Worshipful Grand Master was read, as follows:

Brethren—According to the customary usage, and through the kindness of an all wise and bountiful Providence, we are again permitted to meet in this hall, as the representatives of the Subordinate Lodges. Let us, therefore, return unto Him our most humble acknowledgments for his watchful care and protection over us during the past year, and beseech Him to guide and govern us aright during the period of our deliberations. I congratulate you upon the healthy and prosperous condition of the Lodges throughout our jurisdiction; which is just cause for renewed thankfulness and general rejoicing.

I will now give you a brief retrospect of my labors during the past Masonic year.

Applications have been made to me, in the requisite form, to resuscitate and to organize the following named Lodges, viz.: to resuscitate Mansfield Lodge, formerly No. 31, located at Washington, Warren county; to resuscitate Princeton Lodge, formerly No. 30, located in the borough of Princeton. I have organized one, called Darcy Lodge, located in the town of Flemington, Hunterdon county, and one, called Baldwin Lodge, located in the city of Newark. I have also resuscitated a Lodge, named Paterson Orange Lodge, formerly No. 13, located in the city of Paterson, Passaic county; all of which I have duly organized and set to work. They are returnable to the annual meeting of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, and subject to its action. I would, therefore, respectfully recommend this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge to grant them, separately, warrants, to enable them to pursue their Masonic labors as regular Lodges.

I have visited the following named Lodges, who are working under the jurisdiction of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey, viz.: St. John's Lodge, No. 1; Newark Lodge, No. 7; Hiram

Lodge, No. 17; Washington Lodge, No. 33; Cincinnati Lodge, No. 3; Clinton Lodge, (at Baskingridge), No. 8; Washington Lodge (at Eatontown), No. 9; Franklin Lodge, No. 10; Union Lodge, No. 11; Amwell Lodge, No. 12; Warren Lodge, No. 13; Mount Holly Lodge, No. 14; Camden Lodge, No. 15; Harmony Lodge, No. 18; Rockaway Lodge, No. 20; Mystic Brotherhood Lodge, No. 21; Harmony Lodge, No. 23; Prospect Lodge, No. 24; Northern Lodge, No. 25; Jerusalem Lodge, No. 26; Lafayette Lodge, No. 27; Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 28, and Hoboken Lodge, No. 35.

I have also visited the following named Lodges, for the purpose of assisting in the installation of their officers: Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 28; Stewart Lodge, No. 34; Darcy Lodge, U. D.; Mansfield Lodge, U. D.; Baldwin Lodge, U. D.; Union Lodge, No. 11; St. John's Lodge, No. 1; Newark Lodge, No. 7; Harmony Lodge, No. 18; Washington Lodge, No. 9; Joppa Lodge, No. 29; and it affords me much pleasure to add, in the same connection, and for the information of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, that I found them all in a highly flourishing and prosperous condition.

I have also granted dispensations to the following named Lodges, to enable them to make Masons without the usual form of laying over one month: St. John's, No. 1; Newark, No. 7; Washington, No. 33; Camden, No. 15; Varick, No. 31; Union, No. 11; Warren, No. 13; Stewart, No. 34; Darcy, U. D.; Princeton, U. D.; Prospect, No. 24; and Trenton, No. 5.

I have also found it necessary to call a semi-annual meeting of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, which was held in the city of Trenton on the 10th day of July, 1855, and which was convened for the purpose of submitting to its notice important business which required immediate action; the doings of which have been recorded, and can be found on the minutes of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

Brethren, whilst every year gives us an increase of new members to our Lodges, I hope and trust, for the honor and credit of our Ancient Craft, that due caution is observed in receiving all applicants who are to partake in the benefits to be derived in our Fraternity. Guard well the doors of your Lodges, and see that none enter but such as are truly qualified to receive our honors, by having a well reported good moral character, free from all stains of just censure—honest and true. If such, and such only, present themselves, and are admitted, it is reasonable to expect you will have not only good members, but intelligent and bright Masons—a credit to us and an honor to themselves—entitled, also, to the favorable opinion of many out of our bounds, who are or may be doubtful, from what they have seen of us, of the utility of our institution in benefiting moral character, as well as aiding the well being of our common country.

It is likewise the proper business of the Lodge to teach, and of the brethren to learn, the import of our emblems, signals and usages. They form, altogether, a code of principles, which, if lived up to, cannot fail to make us better men. We exemplify our principles in the proceedings of our Lodges, known also with us as written landmarks, and have a universal language to recognise one another in all nations,—we have an explanation of our emblems and charges, even in our printed books, which may be known to all who choose to read them. We are bound to study and know them ourselves; we explain them in our lectures, so that these principles, made impressive on the mind, serve a valuable purpose as rules of our conduct, not only among the Fraternity but among men. We are bound by their Masonic teachings, being, as we believe, in accordance with truth and the duties we owe to ourselves and society at large. We have, as you all know, certain forms and ceremonies in our Lodges, which, looked at merely as forms, may be deemed by the uninformed as unimportant and useless. All societies have their forms (it belongs to the nature of associations), and are various as circumstances require. Our forms have their peculiar meaning: some are indications of a binding character, and have their full force as such; but all, more or less, with us are emblems of principles we hold dear and sacred, and profess to be governed by them in our lives and conversation. True to their principles, true to the common charity which, I trust, abounds with us more than in all other societies, we have more forbearance for one another's frailties, and are cemented together by the bonds of a purer and more enduring friendship than will be found in any other associciation.

There is another matter which requires our attention. To be thoroughly instructed in the lectures, well acquainted with the ceremonies, and complete in the degrees, is the ambition of all. But some are prompted to a more rapid progress through its forms than is consistent with a clear and adequate comprehension of its principles; hence they gain but a superficial, or at best only a speculative knowledge of the art. Masonry is an art of great compass and extent; a thorough knowledge of its mysteries cannot be obtained at once, it can only be done by degrees. By much application advances are made—every step is progressive, and opens new light and information. "According to the progress we make, says Preston, we limit or extend our inquiries; and, in proportion to our capacity, we attain to a less or a greater degree of perfection."

The practice, therefore, of conferring more than one degree of an evening is an evil, and should be abolished at once, or only indulged in in very extreme cases. Masonry is a progressive science, and knowledge is the main spring which keeps the whole train in beautiful motion. When the novitiate enters the golden gate of our Temple, and places his foot

upon the first step, he becomes entranced and, as it were, lost in amazement. He is then in a rude and unfinished state. The work of shaping the "rough ashler" commences; and, if he progresses scientifically, his greatest desire will be for "more light." As he proceeds, he will acquire a firm and steady resolution of mind, be prepared for every reverse, superior to every shock. He learns the discipline of virtue; he listens to the instructions of wisdom, and, following his unerring and faithful guide, he places his trust in God and fears no danger. As each new beauty is revealed to his gaze, an indelible impression is made upon his mind, and he is better able to appreciate the labor that has been bestowed upon him. By the aid of competent teachers, he is further instructed, and as he progresses still on he becomes more and more convinced that, to arrive at the summit of his ambition, he must first become proficient in the science, or he will not be fit for the perfect designs of the Master. The mind should be thoroughly exercised. It should be impressed upon the memory of the youthful workman that *time* is required to enable him to properly understand the mysteries of the institution. Masonry is the study of a lifetime, but too many of its votaries, I fear, loose sight of the first great requirement. I would be doing great injustice if I did not add, in this connection, that there are some Lodges within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, which sternly require time between each degree.

As the time has now arrived, my brethren, for me to retire from the office, with which I have for several years been honored, I am desirous of leaving with you my very best wishes. During my course I have, I believe, faithfully endeavored to the best of my abilities to illustrate, in my humble way, the genius of Masonry and to vindicate the principles of the institution; and while inculcating upon the members a regard to its duties, to impress upon the minds of those who are looking on a favorable opinion of its true designs and tendency. In the great and glorious work of extending the principles of the Masonic institution, and reducing them to practice, many of you have personally done much. You have looked upon the institution in a manner in which all intelligent Masons should. The Masonic family is one body, and each member a part.

"Of one stupendous whole!"

Death, the great human leveller, during the past year has invaded our midst, and with fearful tread. Since our last annual session many of the brotherhood have been removed from this earthly Lodge of clay to the Celestial Grand Lodge above, not made with hands eternal in the heavens.

"Leaves have their times to fall, and stars to set;
But thou, O Death! hast all times and seasons for thine own."

But brethren, we must bear in mind that those afflictions, although they have fallen heavily upon some of the brotherhood, were by the will

of the Great Grand Master of the Universe, who rules and presides over the destiny of all things. Let HIS will be done.

Around the sacred altar of Masonry do we thus yearly assemble, and bring our votive incense to the Temple which our predecessors founded on the firm basis of virtue, and supported by the pillars of WISDOM, STRENGTH, and BEAUTY. We meet to transact the business of a Grand Lodge, and to renew the cordialities of friendship and the resolutions of love and good will. We are not ambitious. The duties of society and of religion are also binding upon us. May we live to discharge them ALL with fidelity and honor! Finally, my brethren, when the events of time shall be ended and the retribution of eternity begin: when the doors of the Celestial Temple on high shall be thrown open, and the Craft called to silence by the sound of the mighty gavel on the throne, may each and all of you, on that great day, be found "duly prepared" to approach the East, and receive from the Omnicient Judge of all the earth the precious jewel of immortality, which will be incomparably more resplendent than any here below. With joy you will then be able to join the chorus and chaunt the REQUIEM of dissolving nature; and while the beautiful star of hope rises in the deep caverns of eternity, exclaim, in the language of the poet—

"Eternal hope! when yonder spheres sublime
Peal'd their first notes to sound the march of time,
The joyous youth began—but not to fade—
When all thy sister planets have decayed;
When wrapt in flames, the realms of ether glow,
And Heaven's last thunder shakes the world below.
Thou undismayed, shalt o'er the ruins smile
And light thy torch at nature's funeral pile."

EDWARD STEWART, *Grand Master.*

It was, on motion of Past Master Samuel Lilly, of No. 12, ordered that it be referred to a committee of five.

The Deputy Grand Master reported as follows:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey.

BRETHREN—In addition to such report as may be made to your Most Worshipful Grand Body by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, I have the honor to report—that during the recess since the last annual session, I have visited most of the Lodges in my immediate district, and am gratified in reporting the Craft experiencing a healthy and judicious growth.

I have visited Cape Island, No. 30, but find the multiplicity of engagements during the bathing season, and the peculiar necessity of absence during the rest of the year of so many of the members who are pilots,

that they are in want of more instruction in the work. I am pleased, however, to bear testimony to the correct moral standing of the members.

Bordentown Lodge, No. 28, is advancing steadily in moral worth as well as members.

I have visited and installed the officers of Mount Holly Lodge, No. 14, This Lodge is in good condition.

I visited and assisted the Most Worshipful Grand Master in installing the officers of Harmony Lodge, No. 18, of Toms River. This Lodge is worthy of great praise for the proficiency of their work and sound integrity of membership.

I visited and installed the officers of Burlington Lodge, No. 32, at Burlington. They are in a prosperous condition, and bid fair to equal any Lodge in the jurisdiction in true Masonic worth.

I have not visited Brearley Lodge, No. 2, at Bridgeton, but am informed they are moving onward in increasing prosperity.

Camden Lodge, No. 15, is also increasing very creditably.

Tuckerton Lodge, No. 4, although not adding largely to her members, may be more sound in Masonic virtues.

I regret not having visited all the Lodges in this part of the jurisdiction, but am glad to say, the Most Worshipful Grand Master has in a great measure supplied my remissness; the Craft, however, is advancing in the promulgation and practice of Masonic virtues.

Respectfully and fraternally,

SAMUEL READ, *D. G. Master.*

Mount Holly, January 7th, 5856.

It was moved that it be referred to the same committee.

The Grand Secretary reported as follows:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, of the State of New Jersey.

In presenting my annual report, there are some matters which I think should claim your attention at this session.

At an adjourned session of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, held at the city of Newark, on Monday, the 14th day of May, A. L. 5849, A. D. 1849, a communication was read from the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, recommending the Rev. William T. Leacock, the president of the Orphan Masonic College of said State, as a worthy brother, and asking aid in behalf of said institution, which was referred to a committee, who reported, and recommended the sum of fifty dollars be appropriated to that institution, which was adopted.

The appropriation above referred to never having been called for, and the Grand Lodge of Kentucky having reported us as doubtful in payment, I therefore take the liberty of calling attention to it, and recommend that the Grand Treasurer appropriate that sum, and said Grand Lodge be requested to draw on him for it.

Washington Lodge, No. 9, at Eatontown, stands indebted on our books for dues, for the year 1850, to the amount of $23, which they allege to have paid.

This is a claim prior to the undersigned taking charge of the receipts of this Grand Lodge, and I am unable to say whether correct or not; and inasmuch as they claim to have paid it, I recommend that said sum be credited to them.

On the 23d of July last, an appeal was filed from R. W. Dodd and others, stating that they feel "aggrieved on account of the decision of the special Grand Lodge held at Trenton, July 10th, A. L. 5855, in the case of Jesse Williams, do respectfully appeal from that decision to this Most Worshipful Lodge, to meet at Trenton, January 9th, A. L. 5856."

On the same day a protest was filed by David R. Winans "against the late action of Union Lodge, in declaring his vote on the admission of Jesse Williams illegal," &c.

The aforesaid appeal and protest are filed, in accordance with the power given by the seventeenth section of first article of the By-Laws.

Herewith I present a statement of the several sums of money received prior to this day, viz.:

For Grand Lodge certificates	$11	00
Dispensation to Trenton Lodge, No. 5	4	00
Dues of Trenton Lodge, No. 5	34	00
" Jerusalem Lodge, No. 26	14	50
" Harmony Lodge, No. 18	10	00
" Hoboken Lodge, No. 35	19	00
" Cincinnati Lodge, No. 3	25	50
" Mansfield Lodge, U. D	16	50
" Washington Lodge, No. 9	34	00
" Joppa Lodge, No. 29	16	50
" Hiram Lodge, No. 17	48	48
" Franklin Lodge, No. 10	10	50
" Prospect Lodge, No. 24	13	50
" Amwell Lodge, No. 12	17	00
" Varick Lodge, No. 31	33	00
" Union Lodge, No. 11	37	00
" Princeton Lodge, U. D	7	50
" Diogenes Lodge, No. 22	11	50
" Mount Holly Lodge, No. 14	35	00
" Stewart Lodge, No. 34	9	00
" Darcy Lodge, U. D	11	00
" Mystic Brotherhood Lodge, No. 21	16	00
" Camden Lodge, No. 15	38	50
	$462	98

It is a matter of regret, and somewhat embarrassing to the Grand Officers to be compelled to call attention to the small number of Lodges who have complied with the *sixteenth* section of the General Regulations, and in addressing the proper officers of the Lodge we are at a loss to know who are the Lodge officers for the present year. Those who have complied with said regulations are as follows: Trenton, No. 5, Washington, No. 9, Mystic Brotherhood, No. 21, Mount Moriah, No. 28, Hoboken, No. 35, Mansfield, U. D., Darcy, U. D., and Princeton, U. D.

Respectfully submitted.

JOSEPH H. HOUGH, *G. Sec'y.*

Dated January 9th, 5856.

It was moved that it be referred to the same committee.

A petition was presented and read, signed by Joseph Munn and others, to resuscitate Bloomfield Lodge, No. —.

It was ordered to be referred to the same committee.

A petition was presented and read, signed by Edward E. Taylor and others, to organize a new Lodge at Hightstown, in the county of Mercer, to be called Hightstown Lodge, No. —.

It was ordered to be referred to the same committee.

The Chair appointed a committee on Treasurer's and Secretary's accounts, to consist of Past Masters James S. Green, jun., of No. 33, George A. Tator, of No. 9, and Robert C. Buzby, of No. 28.

The consideration of the committee on the Grand Master's, Deputy Grand Master's and Grand Secretary's reports, and also the petitions aforesaid for Lodges, was resumed, when the following were nominated:

Past Masters Samuel Lilly, of No. 12, William M. Babbitt, of No. 11, John R. Chapin, of No. 10, Henry S. Cannon, of No. 26, Theodore R. Varick, of No. 31, James M. Cassady, of No. 15, Milton Baldwin and Past Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen, of No. 7.

Past Master Samuel Lilly, of No. 12, moved to reconsider the resolution, that the committee consist of five. Not agreed to.

Past Master David Naar, of No. 5, moved that the Grand Master name the committee, and called for the previous question; which was not agreed to.

Past Master James S. Green, jun., of No. 33, moved that Past Master William M. Babbitt, of No. 11, be chairman, which was agreed to, and the following were nominated and confirmed by the Grand Lodge: Past Master Henry R. Cannon, of No. 26, Milton Baldwin, of No. 7, Past Grand Master Jeptha B. Munn, of No. 1, Past Deputy Grand Master Theodore R. Varick, of No. 31.

On motion of Past Master David Naar, of No. 5, the Grand Lodge adjourned until half past three o'clock P. M.

3½ O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

The committee to whom was referred the several reports of the Grand and Deputy Grand Masters, and Secretary, as also the petitions which were referred to them, made a verbal report, that the dispensations to Mansfield, Darcy, Princeton, Baldwin, Bloomfield and Hightstown Lodges be taken up, and warrants issue, and that they take number according to seniority.

The committee appointed at the last annual meeting, on rules of order made the following report:

To the Worshipful Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey.

We, your committee, appointed at the last annual session to report a code of rules order for the use and government of this Grand Body, with leave report the following.*

JAMES M. CASSADY,
SAMUEL READ,
JOSEPH H. HOUGH.

Trenton, January 9th, 5856.

The report was received and committee discharged.

The committee to whom was referred the Treasurer's and Secretary's accounts, made the following report, which was read, accepted and adopted.

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* Report omitted here.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey.

BRETHREN—Your committee, appointed to examine into and report upon the accuracy of the accounts of the Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer and Secretary, would respectfully report:

Balance on hand last year	$15 85
Received from various sources during the year	516 75
	$532 60
Paid out, as per vouchers	534 60
Balance due the treasurer	$2 00

All which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES S. GREEN, JUN.,
GEORGE A. TATOR,
R. C. BUZBY.

The following newly warranted Lodges were represented as follows:

John McGilligan, S. W., Mansfield, No. 36.
Bennet Van Sickell, W. M., John F. Schenck, S. W., Darcy, No. 37.
Robert S. Green, W. M., W. Tenbrook Stout, S. W., Princeton, No. 38.

It was *Ordered*, That the name of Baldwin be changed to Eureka, No. 39, Henry L. Martin, J. W.; Bloomfield, No. 40; Hightstown, No. 41.

The committee to whom was referred the investigation of charges brought by Bro. Marcus M. Mitchell against Bro. John Snyder, in Union Lodge, No. 11, at the meeting in July last, made a report, which was read.

It was *Ordered*, That the report be received and the committee discharged.

A petition was presented and read, signed by Caleb H. Valentine and others, to resuscitate Independence Lodge, formerly No. 29, of Hackettstown, Warren county.

It was *Ordered*, That it be referred to the committee on the Grand Master's address.

It was *Ordered*, That the committee on Constitution, By-Laws, &c., have until to-morrow to report.

Nominations for Grand Officers were made.

It was *Ordered*, That the first business this evening, on labor, be the election of Grand Officers.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment until eight o'clock.

8 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Brearley Lodge, No. 2, was represented by George W. H. Whitaker, J. W.

The time having arrived for an election of officers to serve the coming year, the Chair ordered an election to be held, and appointed Past Master Henry R. Cannon, of No. 26, judge, and Past Masters George Taylor, of No. 19, and Bennet Van Sickell, of No. 37, tellers.

Previous to proceeding to ballot, the Chair read the following:

BRETHREN—By your kind partiality, I have had the honor to preside over the interests of the Craft in this jurisdiction for five consecutive years, during which time my utmost efforts have been exerted for the best welfare of the Craft. If I have succeeded in any degree to the advancement of Masonry within our jurisdiction I am amply repaid, and trust that good may continue to increase; if, upon the contrary, I have erred, which undoubtedly is the case, brethren rest assured that error has been of the head and not of the heart. For your continual fraternal regard and kindness I thank you, and now decline being a candidate for the office for which I have been nominated.

E. STEWART.

While proceeding to ballot, the question was asked—"Can a Past Master, who is a proxy for the officers of a Subordinate Lodge, cast three votes, that is, two as such proxy, and one as Past Master?"

The Chair decided "he could only vote in one capacity at the same time."

Past Deputy Grand Master Theodore R. Varick, of No. 31, appealed, as follows:

"I appeal from the decision of the Grand Master, as to his decision in regard to the rights of Past Masters voting while representing a Subordinate Lodge as proxy."

Which appeal was decided out of order.

The election then proceeded, when the following were reported by the judge, and by the Chair declared to be duly elected, as follows:

Grand Master—M. W. Daniel Babbitt, of No. 11.
Deputy Grand Master—R. W. Theodore R. Varick, of No. 31.
Senior Grand Warden—R. W. John H. Janeway, of No. 27.
Junior Grand Warden—R. W. George Finch, of No. 21.
Grand Treasurer—R. W. Elias Phillips, of No. 5.
Grand Secretary—R. W. Joseph H. Hough, of No. 5.
Deputy Grand Secretary—R. W. John R. Chapin, of No. 10.

The following resolution was agreed to:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to Most Worshipful Brother Edward Stewart, for his fidelity, perseverence, and unwearied exertions in the performance of the arduous duties pertaining to the office of Grand Master.

A motion to adjourn was not agreed to.

Past Grand Master Joseph W. Scott, of No. 19, took the chair, and installed all the officers elect, except the Grand Master, he not being present.

On motion, it was *Ordered*, That the Grand Lodge be called from labor to refreshment till to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock.

THURSDAY MORNING, 9 O'CLOCK.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor, Deputy Grand Master Theodore R. Varick, of No. 31, presiding.

The committee to whom was referred the revision of the Constitution, By-Laws, &c., reported as follows:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Wardens and Members of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey.

The committee to whom was referred the revision and alterations of the Constitution, By-Laws, and General Regulations of this Grand Lodge, beg leave most respectfully to report—that they have endeavored to give to the subject of their labors the most careful consideration. They have examined the constitutions of all the various Grand Lodges in communication with this Grand Lodge, and have embodied all the amendments and alterations which have been passed by this Grand Lodge, from time to time, in the following Constitution, By-Laws, and General Regulations, which they beg leave to submit to the consideration of this Grand Lodge for their adoption. That they have, for information of the Craft, intro-

duced the ancient landmarks, as far as it is proper to commit to writing; that they have made many alterations, which they hope will be pleasing to the brethren, and which they hope will meet with their approbation; and they would state that they have consulted all the ancient works on Masonic jurisprudence that they have had access to to prove their work.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN H. JANEWAY,
J. B. MUNN.

Past Master David Naar, of No. 5, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the committee be requested to cause to be printed a sufficient number of copies of the Constitution and By-laws submitted by them, as will be sufficient for the use of all the Subordinate Lodges and Past Grand Officers, and that the same be forwarded to the said Lodges and officers—the copies to be printed in the form of bills presented to the legislature of this State.

Amwell Lodge, No. 12, was represented by Charles A. Skillman, Worshipful Master.

It was *Ordered*, On motion of Past Grand Master Jeptha B. Munn, of No. 1, that the rules of order reported yesterday be referred to the committee on Constitution, &c., to be printed.

Past Master William M. Babbitt, of No. 11, called up the report on the charges of Bro. Marcus M. Mitchell, against Bro. John Snyder, in Union Lodge, No. 11, and moved that a new committee on the subject be appointed, and the report received yesterday be rejected.

A motion to lay on the table was not agreed to.

Past Master Henry R. Cannon, of No. 26, offered the following as a substitute, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the committee appointed by this Grand Lodge, at the called meeting in July last, in reference to charges preferred in Union Lodge, at Orange, be discharged, and that the whole business be referred back to that Lodge for their adjudication.

The committee on the Grand Master's address presented the following, which was accepted and adopted:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey.

BRETHREN—The committee appointed by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge to examine and report upon the address of our Most Worshipful Grand Master, beg leave to offer the following:

The prosperous condition of the Fraternity, and the healthy increase of

Lodges throughout the State is, and of necessity must be, truly gratifying to all those who properly appreciate our time-honored institution.

Your committee, in accordance with the suggestion of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, recommend that warrants be granted for the resuscitation of Mansfield Lodge and Princeton Lodge, and also for the institution of Darcy Lodge and Eureka Lodge, and that the acts of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, in granting them dispensations, be approved. In reference to the recommendation that a warrant issue for the resuscitation of Paterson Orange Lodge, the evidence presented to the committee is of such a character that they have thought it most prudent to refer the application back to this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, for its investigation and action.

During the year, the Most Worshipful Grand Master has, in the discharge of his duties, visited most of the Lodges under his jurisdiction, and given them the benefit of his fraternal counsel and instruction.

As he is now about to retire from the discharge of his arduous and responsible duties, the committee have deemed it proper to offer the accompanying resolution for the adoption of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey be returned to the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Edward Stewart, for the faithful discharge of the arduous duties of Grand Master, during a service of many years, and that the best wishes of the members of this Grand Lodge, and of the Fraternity at large throughout the State, will ever be with him in his retirement.

The committee have examined the report of the Most Worshipful Grand Secretary, and approve of his suggestions, and in accordance therewith, present the following resolutions:

Resolved, That a warrant be drawn upon the Most Worshipful Grand Treasurer for $50, appropriated by this Grand Lodge for the benefit of the Orphan Masonic College of the State of Kentucky, and that the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge be requested to notify the Most Worshipful Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky that the amount awaits his draft.

Resolved, That the amount of $23 be credited to the account of Washington Lodge, No. 9, at Eatontown.

The report of the Most Worshipful Deputy Grand Master Read has also been examined, and the committee have been gratified at his favorable mention of the condition of the Craft in the western portion of the State.

The committee have also received petitions to establish Lodges at Bloomfield, Hightstown, and Hackettstown, and offer the following resolution, that the prayer of the petitioners be granted, and that a warrant issue for Independence Lodge, No. 42, Hackettstown, Warren county,

Bloomfield Lodge, No. 40, at Bloomfield, Essex county, and Hightstown Lodge, No. 41, at Hightstown, Mercer county.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. M. Babbitt,
J. B. Munn,
Milton Baldwin,
Theodore R. Varick,
Henry R. Cannon.

Trenton, January 10th, 5856.

Past Grand Master Samuel Read, of No. 15, offered the following resolutions, which were agreed to:

Resolved, That a committee of three, consisting of Past Grand Masters Jeptha B. Munn, of No. 1, Joseph W. Scott, of No. 19, and Daniel B. Bruen, of No. 7, be appointed to procure a Past Grand Master's jewel, at a cost not to exceed fifty dollars, and present the same to Past Grand Master Edward Stewart, as a faint token of respect for the valuable services rendered the Craft.

Resolved, That an order be drawn on the Treasurer of this Grand Lodge for the sum of fifty dollars for the above purpose.

Deputy Grand Secretary, John R. Chapin, offered the following, which was referred to the committee on Constitution, By-Laws, &c.

I submit the following, as the order of business:

After the Grand Lodge shall be called to order, the business shall be taken up in the following order:

1. Reading the minutes of the last Grand Communication by the Grand Secretary.
2. Reading of annual address and report of the Most Worshipful Grand Master and Deputy Grand Master.
3. Appointment of committees to examine and audit the accounts of Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer.
4. Election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year.
5. Granting warrants.
6. Report of special committees.
7. Reading communications.
8. New business.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence asked leave to print their report with the journal, as an appendix; which was agreed to.

The Chair appointed the following a committee on bills

presented: Past Masters David Naar, of No. 5, C. A. Skillman, of No. 12, and Robert S. Green, of No. 38.

On motion of Past Master David Naar, of No. 5, that a warrant issue to Paterson Orange Lodge, No. 43, after considerable discussion, the previous question was called, and agreed to.

The warrant was ordered.

The Grand Lodge was called off until two and a half o'clock, P. M.

2½ O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

VISITORS.—Leon Hyneman, Shekinah Lodge, No. 246, of Philadelphia, Morris K. Crane, of Hoboken Lodge, No. 35, Thomas J. Corson and W. W. L. Phillips, of No. 5.

The bill of Past Grand Master William H. Earl, of No. 7, which was indefinitely postponed at the meeting in July last, was called up, and, on motion, referred to the committee on presented bills.

Past Grand Master Jeptha B. Munn, of No. 1, made a statement that Bro. Sterritt, of No. —, a worthy Mason, was poor, and wished relief.

It was *Ordered*, That the amount of fifty dollars be appropriated for his relief.

The Deputy Grand Master made the following appointments:

Rev. and W. John L. Lenhart, of No. 7, Grand Chaplain.
James M. Cassady, of No. 15, Senior Grand Deacon.
George Taylor, of No. 19, Junior Grand Deacon.
William M. Babbitt, of No. 11, Grand Marshal.
Chauncey Dygert, of No. 17, Grand Steward.
John Thompson, of No. 24, Grand Steward.
Peter J. Powless, of No. 35, Grand Swordbearer.
Thomas Thompson, of No. 12, Grand Pursuivant.
Amos Howell, of No. 5, Grand Tyler.

And, with a view to facilitate the duties of the Grand Officers, do assign to the Wardens the Lodges in their vicinity:

To Bro. John H. Janeway, Senior Grand Warden—Trenton, No. 5, Clinton, No. 8, Franklin, No. 10, Amwell, No. 12, Warren, No. 13, Mount Holly, No. 14, Camden, No. 15, Jerusalem, No. 26, Lafayette, No. 27, Mount Moriah, No. 28, Burlington, No. 32, and Stewart, No. 34.

To Bro. George Finch, Junior Grand Warden—Brearley, No. 2, Tuckerton, No. 4, Washington, No. 9, Harmony, No. 18, Mystic Brotherhood, No. 21, and Cape Island, No. 30.

To the Deputy Grand Master—the others not above enumerated.

Deputy Grand Secretary offered the following resolution; which was not agreed to.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the Grand Lodge to confer with like committees from the Grand Lodges of New York and Pennsylvania, in regard to Lodges in the various States making Masons of individuals who reside without the jurisdiction of the various Grand Lodges, and until that committee shall report, Lodges under this jurisdiction be instructed not to confer the degrees of Masonry upon persons without the State, unless the nearest Lodge in the neighboring State shall signify their assent.

Bro. William S. Whitehead, of No. 1, offered the following resolution; which was adopted.

Whereas, Subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, located in the southern and eastern part of this State, experience much annoyance from the frequent and almost weekly practice of Subordinate Lodges, located in Philadelphia and New York, working under the authority of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodges of Pennsylvania and New York, of receiving the applications of persons residing in this State, and passing them through the several degrees of Masonry without regarding the rights of this jurisdiction—therefore,

Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master, under the seal of this Grand Lodge, respectfully request the Most Worshipful Grand Lodges of Pennsylvania and New York to take such action, as in their wisdom may be necessary, to protect the subordinates of this Grand Lodge adjacent to their jurisdiction, in not allowing subordinates, work-

ing under that jurisdiction to entertain petitions for the honors of Masonry from persons residing in this State, without consulting the subordinate nearest the place of residence of such applicant, and that the consent of said subordinate, so consulted, shall be requisite for the reception of any applicant.

The committee to whom was referred the several bills presented at this session, presented the following report.

It was ordered, that the report be accepted, and bills ordered paid.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey.

The undersigned, a committee appointed to audit the bills against the Grand Lodge, hereby report—that they have examined the following, and finding them certified as correct, hereby enumerate them for payment.

Grand Master Stewart	$125 00
Deputy Grand Master Read	32 50
Senior Grand Warden Dill	15 00
Junior Grand Warden Janeway	20 00
Senior Grand Deacon Brown	14 20
Junior Grand Deacon Cassady	6 00
Grand Secretary Hough	222 63
Deputy Grand Secretary Chapin	17 50
Grand Tyler Howell	9 00
Past Grand Master Earl	30 00
Past Grand Master Munn	32 25
Ichabod Harrison	7 00
William Godber (St. John's)	6 00
H. B. Mattison (advertising)	2 75
Phillips & Boswell (printing)	3 00
State Gazette (advertising)	2 75
David Clark (stationery)	10 68
Newark Daily Advertiser (advertising 1854)	5 50
" " " " (1855)	5 50
D. W. Dorman's expenses on committees	7 50
	$574 76

Making a total of five hundred and seventy-four dollars and seventy-six cents.

DAVID NAAR,
CHARLES A. SKILLMAN,
ROBERT S. GREEN.

It was *Ordered,* That the sum of twelve dollars be appropriated for the expenses of the Grand Chaplain.

The proposition on page 40 of the journal of the last annual meeting, [page 597 of this book], relative to changing the place of holding the annual meetings of this Grand Lodge, was called up by Past Master Josiah J. Burgess, of No. 31, and moved to substitute "Jersey City" for "Trenton."

Past Deputy Grand Master Samuel Read, of No. 14, moved that it be postponed till the next annual meeting; which was agreed to.

Past Master James S. Green, jun., of No. 33, offered the following resolution; which was laid on the table.

Resolved, That Bro. Past Grand Master Edward Stewart, be requested to state to this Grand Lodge the time, place, and manner in which he pronounced the sentence ordered by this Grand Lodge against Bro. Past Master Luther Goble, of No. 1.

The chair appointed the following a Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the present year: Past Masters Josesh H. Hough, of No. 5, Josiah J. Burgess, of No. 31, and David S. Plume, of No. 7,

It was *Ordered*, That the name of each member be printed with the journal as formerly.

It was *Ordered*, That the Committee on Printing be authorized to audit and settle the bill for printing this journal when done satisfactorily.

The minutes of this communication were read and approved.

The Grand Lodge closed in harmony and due form, to meet again, at the city of Trenton, on the first Wednesday after the second Tuesday in January next, unless sooner convened by the proper authority.

Trenton, January 10th, A. L. 5856.

JOS. H. HOUGH, *G. Secretary.*

Abstract of Lodge Returns, &c., and account of moneys received by Grand Secretary.

LODGES.	No.	New mem.	Old mem.	Total mem.	Warrant fees.	Certificates.	Dues.	Total.
St. John's	1	8	112	119	.....	$1 00	$59 50	$60 50
Brearley	2	7	54	61	.....	.....	*46 50	46 50
Cincinnati	3	4	47	51	.....	.....	25 50	25 50
Tuckerton	4	2	17	19	.....	.....	9 50	9 50
Trenton	5	27	41	68	.....	1 00	38 00	39 00
Newark	7	24	107	131	.....	2 00	66 50	68 50
Clinton	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Washington	9	11	57	68	.....	2 00	34 00	36 00
Franklin	10	2	19	21	.....	1 00	10 50	11 50
Union (Or'ge)	11	15	59	74	.....	1 00	37 00	38 00
Amwell	12	6	36	42	.....	.....	17 00	17 00
Warren	13	.....	62	62	.....	.....	31 00	31 00
Mount Holly	14	3	47	50	.....	.....	25 00	25 00
Camden	15	12	63	75	.....	1 00	37 50	38 50
Olive Branch	16	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hiram	17	13	84	97	.....	.....	48 48	48 48
Harmony	18	7	26	33	.....	.....	10 10	10 00
Union (N.B.)	19	2	39	41	.....	.....	20 50	20 50
Rockaway	20	6	38	44	.....	.....	22 00	22 00
Mc. Brother'd	21	13	15	28	.....	2 00	14 00	16 00
Diogenes	22	3	20	23	.....	.....	11 50	11 50
Harmony	23	9	37	46	.....	.....	23 00	23 00
Prospect	24	9	18	27	.....	.....	13 50	13 50
Northern	25	9	36	45	.....	.....	22 50	22 50
Jerusalem	26	5	24	29	.....	.....	14 50	14 50
La Fayette	27	8	19	27	.....	.....	13 50	13 50
Mt. Moriah	28	8	22	30	.....	.....	15 00	15 00
Joppa	29	8	25	33	.....	.....	16 50	16 50
Cape Island	30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Varick	31	14	52	66	.....	.....	33 00	33 00
Burlington	32	14	15	29	.....	.....	14 50	14 50
Washington	33	6	24	30	.....	2 00	19 50	21 50
Stewart	34	10	8	18	.....	1 00	9 00	10 00
Hoboken	35	11	27	38	.....	.....	19 00	19 00
Mansfield	36	15	18	33	.....	.....	16 50	16 50
Darcy	37	14	8	22	$25 00	.....	11 00	36 00
Princeton	38	2	13	15	.....	.....	7 50	7 50
Eureka	39	.....	7	7	25 00	.....	3 50	28 50
Bloomfield	40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hightstown	41	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Independence	42	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pat'son Or'ge	43	.....	14	14	.....	.....	7 00	7 00
		307	1309	1616	$50 00	$14 00	$822 98	$886 98

* Two years.

APPENDIX.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

A. L. 5855.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence report, that they have received printed journals of the several Grand Lodges, &c., as follows:

States.	Date of meeting.	When received.
1. Arkansas,	Nov. 6, 1854,	January 9, 1855.
2. Ohio (G. Chapter),	Oct. 13, "	Feb. 3, "
3. "	" 17, "	Jan. 10, "
4. Virginia (G. Chapter),	Dec. 14, "	Feb. 16, "
5. District of Columbia,	May 2, to Dec. 27, 1854,	" 21, "
6. Florida,	Jan. 8, 1855,	March 9, "
7. Michigan,	" 10, "	" 24, "
8. Vermont,	" " "	" 27, "
9. Nat. Mas. Convention,	" 3 and 4, 1855,	April 9, "
10. Texas,	" 15, "	" 11, "
11. North Carolina,	Dec. 4, 1854,	" 14, "
12. New York,	Aug. 29, '54, to Jun. 9, '55,	" 17, "
13. " " (Evidence),		
14. South Carolina,	Jan. 3, to Dec. 27, 1854,	May 2, "
15. " " (Address),		" " "
16. Vermont (reprint),	Jan. 14, '46 and Jan. 13, '47,	" " "
17. N. York (St. John's),	June 13, 1853,	" 5, "
18. " (Circular letter),		" " "
19. Mississippi,	Jan. 15, 1855,	" 17, "
20. Maryland,	May 1854, to Nov. 1854.	" 18, "
21. Louisiana,	Feb. 12, 1855.	" 22, "
22. Pennsylvania,	Dec. 4, to Dec. 27, 1854,	" 31, "
23. Georgia,	Oct. 31, 1854,	June 11, "
24. Massachusetts,	Dec. 13 and 27, 1854,	July 3, "
25. Connecticut,	May 9 and 10, 1855,	" 6, "
26. Missouri,	" 28, "	" 16, "
27. N. Y. (J. Herring, G. S.),	Sept. 5, '54, to June 7, '55,	" 28, "
28. Maine,	May 2, 1855,	Aug. 7, "
29. Indiana (G. Chapter),	" 23, "	" 22, "
30. "	" 28, "	" " "
31. California.	" 1, "	" 27, "
32. N. Y. (Holland Lodge),	Aug. "	" 30, "

States.	Date of meeting.	When received.
33. Maryland,	May 14, 15, 16, 1855,	Sept. 11, 1855.
34. New Hampshire,	June 12 and 13, "	" 26, "
35. Oregon,	" 11, "	Oct. 4, "
36. Wisconsin,	June 12, "	" 8, "
37. Iowa,	" 5, "	" 24, "
38. Kentucky,	Aug. 29, "	" 31, "
39. Minnesota,	Jan. 1, "	
40. Alabama.	Dec. 4, 1854.	

ARKANSAS.—The proceedings before us are of the annual communication held at Little Rock, November 6th, 1854.

The Grand Master (Most Worshipful Luke E. Barber), in his address, gives notice of the refusal of two of their Lodges to pay a certain sum, levied upon the members of Subordinate Lodges for the benefit of St. John's College, and presented their objections. Louisville Lodge, No. 14, was not represented at the communication which passed the edict, who say in reply, that the plan proposed will not meet the object in view, and promote harmony; will cause an unsuspecting confidence in the wisdom, prudence, and Masonic spirit in the Grand Lodge; that it is unauthorized by ancient principles and the true spirit of the Fraternity, and cannot but prove otherwise than destructive of its end and disastrous in its consequences, and therefore, remonstrate with the Grand Lodge in relation to their unauthorized exercise of the power on their part, and ask for its repeal.

Calhoun Lodge, No. 50, the other Lodge, enter their firm remonstrance, and ask for its repeal.

He thinks it due to them to state, that their proceedings furnish no evidence of an unwillingness to contribute for Masonic enterprises. When called upon in a proper manner, they will most cheerfully, of their own volition, contribute such sums as they feel willing. He says the principle is settled, because it has been sanctioned by the Grand Lodge, at its last four communications, which has been sustained. Other questions growing out of these resolutions, upon which he expresses his own opinions in a very clear and forcible manner, upon the principle of the right of the Grand Lodge to tax the subordinates for such purposes, and concludes, "If you repeal the tax, I do not believe, painful though it be to announce such an opinion, that you, or your sons, or your sons' sons, will ever live to see St. John's College in successful operation, nor another effort in the cause of education by the Masons of Arkansas."

The Grand Lodge afterward passed the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That the edict passed by this Grand Lodge, at its last annual communication, requiring an annual contribution of two dollars, from each affiliated Mason within this jurisdiction, for the benefit of St. John's College, be and the same is hereby repealed."

A committee was appointed to prepare and report a system of Laws and By-Laws for the government of Subordinate Lodges.

A preamble and resolution was adopted, that, as the capitation tax was repealed, that the Subordinate Lodges be earnestly requested to set apart such portion of their gross receipts, as in their judgment they are able to spare, for the benefit of St. John's College.

A resolution was passed for a committee to procure, and present to the Grand Secretary, a full set of regalia, of such degree as he may select, and a gold-headed cane, as a token of the respect and esteem of that Grand Lodge, for his zealous and efficient services as Grand Secretary.

An appendix is published, containing an abstract of opinions on Masonic law, usage, and practice, during the year ending November 1st, 1854, the old charges of 1722, the old regulations of 1721, the ancient mode of constituting a Lodge, ancient Constitutions, old charges of 1738 and 1746, and a lengthy report on foreign correspondence.

We cannot but heartily approve of the Grand Lodge printing those old documents for general circulation among the Craft, for the more they are read, and the principles understood, we will have better officers and more enlightened members. We commend their journal to all.

Most Worshipful Nat. G. Smith was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Thomas D. Merrick, re-elected Grand Secretary.

Ohio.—Journal of proceedings of the Grand Chapter, held at Chillicothe, October 13th, 1854.

Their journal of the Grand Lodge is of a meeting held at Chillicothe, October 17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th, 5854, with a representation from 138 Lodges.

The report of the late Grand Master, Lucius V. Bierce, occupies over twelve pages of their journal, in which he gives an account of his acts, &c., for the past year, and such other matters as may be of benefit to the Fraternity. A better and a more business-like document we have not read in the whole received the past year, and one more profitable. On the subject of dimits, he says:

"Immediately on entering upon the duties of this office, I was met by an evil, co-extensive with Masonry in America at least, I mean the practice of dimitting from a Lodge, by which a brother became released from all the duties of the Lodge and from Lodge dues, but remained still entitled to all the rights and privileges of Masonry. These brethren, in practice, made obselete the rule of our first Great Light in Masonry, that they who will not work, shall not eat. As ready to partake of the stores of Masonry as any others, they refused to contribute to their accumulation; but, drones in the hive of Masonry, their great desire appeared to be to enjoy without laboring, and to consume without producing.

"With these views of the ancient landmarks of Masonry, I could not

tolerate such course. It was suicidal in itself, as it held out inducements to members to withdraw from the support of the Fraternity, by giving them all of the benefits, and requiring from them none of the duties. It was throwing the burthen of sustaining the Fraternity on a few, who, by their labor and money, sustained the Lodges and the Grand Lodge, while those contributing nothing enjoyed all the rights and privileges."

The subject is well supported by numerous decisions of Grand Lodges and other eminent authority. The committee to whom the matter was referred made a report, which we take the liberty to copy here:

"That we recognise fully the doctrine laid down in the ancient Constitutions, 'that it is the duty of every Mason to belong to some regular Lodge.' But, as his entrance into the Fraternity is of his own free will and accord, so should be the performance of this and every other Masonic duty. When, from whatever cause, he desires to withdraw his membership from the Lodge, it is his undoubted right to ask, and the duty of the Lodge, if there be no objection to his moral standing, to grant him an honorable discharge.

"If, when called upon for that purpose, he shall decline to contribute his proper proportion for the support of the Lodge and eleemosynary purposes, it is the *right*, and may become the *duty* of the Lodge to withhold from him all the rights and privileges of the institution. For, while the institution is one of voluntary benefits, it should not be preyed upon by calculating craftiness or unwilling parsimony. A brother who, without reasons which to the Lodge may be good and satisfactory, shall withhold his active support from it, should be regarded as placing himself in a state of *voluntary suspension* from all the rights and privileges of the Fraternity; and we regard it as no breach of duty or propriety to withhold Masonic comity from those occupying that position.

"We therefore recommend for adoption the following resolutions:

"*Resolved*, That we recommend to the Lodges under this jurisdiction to discountenance, by all proper means, the practice of non-affiliation; and that, in the dispensation of their charity, they pay regard to those who are contributors to Masonic resources.

"*Resolved*, That, as one of such means, Lodges may withhold from non-affiliated Masons the right of visiting, of participating in their public exercises, and of Masonic interment.

"*Resolved*, That we recommend to the Lodges under this jurisdiction caution in dispensing their alms to persons from abroad claiming Masonic charity, without their first producing satisfactory evidence of being *members* of good standing in some regular Lodge."

That is what we call treating a disease professionally, and, if carried out with a determination to continue, our word for it, *travelling* beggars would be few, and our charities bestowed upon more worthy objects.

He further says:

"If a Mason ever requires the sympathy of his brethren, it is in old age, when his head is blossomed with years, and his trembling feet totter, as he walks upon the level of time. It has been too long customary to dimit such, because too infirm to attend the Lodge, or too poor to pay dues. If too infirm to attend the Lodge, let the brethren show their regard for them by helping them there; if too poor to pay their dues, let the Lodge remit them, but not dimit them out of the Lodge in their old age because no longer useful."

Most Worshipful William D. Dodds was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful John D. Caldwell re-elected Grand Secretary.

Virginia.—The proceedings of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of this State was held in the city of Lynchburg, December 14th, A. L. 5854, A. S. 2384, A. D. 1854, with a representation from 23 Chapters.

M. E. John Robin McDaniel, Grand High Priest, and E. John Dove, Grand Secretary.

District of Columbia.—The pamphlet before us contains the minutes of several meetings, commencing May 2d, August 2d, October 23d, November 1st and 7th, and December 27th, A. L. 5854.

We find nothing therein of sufficient moment to notice. Most Worshipful Charles S. Frailey was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Samuel T. Shugart, Grand Secretary.

Florida.—Proceedings for the year 1855 were held in the city of Tallahasse, January 8th, with a representation from 19 Lodges, in which we see nothing of much moment, except the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

"*Resolved*, That it shall be the duty of each of the Worshipful Masters of Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge, to reprimand, in open Lodge, any member of his Lodge who shall have been guilty of the unmasonic vice of intemperance, and if the brother so reprimanded should be guilty of this offence after he has been so reprimanded, he shall be suspended or expelled.

"*Resolved further*, That if the proper officers of any Subordinate Lodge shall fail or refuse to execute the foregoing resolutions, their charter shall be taken from them.

"*Resolved further*, That it shall be the duty of each brother to exclude from his employment every brother, or other individual, who is habitually intemperate, provided such brother or other individual cannot be reclaimed by brotherly admonition and affectionate remonstrance; and the Subordinate Lodges we recommend to adopt this resolution, and that the Grand Secretary be requested to transmit a manuscript copy of these

resolutions to the Masters of all the Lodges under this Grand Jurisdiction, as soon as practicable, consistent with his convenience."

Most Worshipful Richard A. Shine was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful John B. Taylor, Grand Secretary.

MICHIGAN.—The session of this Grand Lodge was held in the city of Detroit, January 10th, A. D. 1855, A. L. 5855, with a representation from 59 Lodges.

Most Worshipful George W. Peck was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful James Fenton, Grand Secretary.

VERMONT.—The Annual Communication was held at the city of Burlington, on Wednesday, the 10th day of January, A. L. 5855, with a representation from 33 Lodges.

The Grand Master, in one portion of his address, says:

"During the year, a question has been submitted to my consideration, of a character which I deem it my duty to make known to you. It was an inquiry as to the duty of a Lodge, on an application for initiation from a member of the Roman Catholic Church, who was alleged to entertain opinions involving *unlimited* disclosures at the confessional. I allowed that a committee should have an interview with the petitioner, and ascertain from him directly whether he believed the requirements of his church in this respect were paramount to all others; and whether, in becoming a member of a society which he must know required secrecy of its members, he should feel himself under obligations to impart to his religious adviser, if required, those things which were communicated to him as secrets in the Lodge. I gave it as my opinion, that if he answered affirmatively to these inquiries, it would be as improper as unsafe to admit him among us. The result has not been communicated to me, but is, perhaps, a proper subject to be inquired after by the Grand Lodge. We are all aware that we have a number of brethren belonging to the communion of the church referred to, who hold no such opinions, brethren who are among our most honored members, and who have held some of our highest offices. We have had no cause to doubt their integrity, and I did not consider this an extreme case, I should not have called your attention to it."

The committee to whom it was referred cordially approve the sentiments therein expressed, and recommend the following resolution, which was read and adopted:

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Vermont will grant no dispensation to any man a Mason, for the benefit of any human confessor or confessional; and when any candidate for honors of Masonry shall express the least doubt as to his duty at the confessional, the Lodge to which such candidate shall make application ought not to have the least doubt in excluding him."

In truth, a very wise and safe provision.

We notice an excellent report on foreign correspondence, from the able pen of Bro. Hollenbeck, the Grand Secretary.

Most Worshipful Philip C. Tucker was re-elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful John B. Hollenbeck, Grand Secretary.

National Convention.—The journal of the Convention of Masons was held at Washington, District of Columbia, January 3d and 4th, 1855.

Most Worshipful Charles Gilman, of Maryland, was chosen President, *pro tem.*, and Right Worshipful Finlay M. King, of New York, Secretary, *pro tem.*

Delegates were present from District of Columbia, Maryland, Alabama, New York, Minnesota, Michigan and California.

In the afternoon, the Committee on Credentials presented the following as permanent officers, viz..

Most Worshipful David Clopton, of Alabama, *President.*

Right Worshipful Finlay M. King, of New York, *Secretary.*

Most Worshipful Charles Gilman, of Maryland, Most Worshipful Benjamin B. French, of the District of Columbia, *Vice Presidents.*

Most Worshipful Alfred E. Ames, of Minnesota, *Assistant Secretary.*

Bro. Abner C. Smith, of Michigan, offered the following:

"*Resolved*, That to form a more perfect union, establish uniformity, insure domestic as well as foreign Masonic tranquillity, and secure to ourselves and our posterity the blessings flowing from the perpetuity and diffusion of the principles embraced in the *ancient ritual* of the Fraternity, it is eminently expedient to organize a Federative National Head, with well defined and limited powers, reserving to the several Grand Lodges, or to the Fraternity, all powers, privileges and prerogatives not expressly deputed; which being seconded—

The Right Worshipful Bro. King offered the following as a substitute:

Resolved, That the President appoint a committee of five, of which the President of the convention shall be chairman, to "mature" the plan of a confederation, as contemplated by the Lexington Convention.

Pending the discussion upon the resolution and substitute, "Bro. King moved that both resolution and substitute be referred to a committee, as contemplated in the substitute offered by him; which motion was adopted, and the following brethren were appointed such committee, viz.: Most Worshipful David Clopton, Right Worshipful Finlay M. King, Right Worshipful Abner C. Smith, Most Worshipful Alfred E. Ames, and Most Worshipful Charles Gilman."

The next day the Committee on Credentials reported Right Worshipful James M. Austin as a delegate from the Grand Lodge of New York.

In order to show more clearly the material matter of the acts of this

Convention, we here insert the following Articles of Confederation and address, submitted by the committee:

"The President handed the Secretary the following communication, received from the Most Worshipful Nathan B. Haswell, and the Most Worshipful Philip C. Tucker, of Vermont, which was received and read; and on motion of the Most Worshipful Charles Gilman, was ordered to be spread on the minutes. The Right Worshipful Bro. King remarked, in respect to the communication, that if the identical plan be adopted by this body, which was ratified at the Lexington Convention, he should take it as giving the proper interpretation to the words of that plan which it explained; which was assented to *nem. con.*

To the Convention of Masonic Delegates, to be holden at the City of Washington, on the first Wednesday of January, A. D. 1855.

"Brethren—The undersigned were appointed by the Grand Lodge of the State of Vermont, at its January communication, A. D. 1854, delegates to your body, to represent the interests of said Grand Lodge; the ill health of one of us and the business of the other have interfered, much to our regret, to prevent our attendance upon the convention. In this state of things, we have thought it not inappropriate that we should briefly submit to you a few thoughts on behalf of the Grand Body whom we are thus unfortunately prevented from representing in person.

"As we understand the subject, we suppose the idea of establishing a Grand Lodge of the United States was substantially abandoned at the convention, holden at Lexington, Kentucky, in September, A. D. 1853; that convention having adopted the report of its committee, which set forth that it was inexpedient at that time to attempt the formation of a General Grand Lodge, and presented a new project, recommending the establishment of a 'National Confederation for specific objects.' We understand the present convention to have been called for the specific purpose only of maturing the plan for such confederation, and for considering such propositions as may be submitted by the several Grand Lodges in relation thereto.

"The plan proposed for such a confederation, by the Lexington convention, embraces only the manner of settlement of 'all matters of difficulty which may hereafter arise in any Grand Lodge, or between two or more Grand Bodies of the same Fraternity, which cannot, by their own action, be satisfactorily adjusted or disposed of.'

"The undersigned understand the words, 'Grand Bodies of the same Fraternity,' to mean Grand Lodges only, because they are the sole 'Grand Bodies' to which we understand the project to be applicable; it never having been contemplated, so far as we are informed, to extend it to any other 'Grand Bodies.'

"Thus understanding the project of the proposed confederation, we entertain the opinion that it would be favored by the Grand Lodge of Vermont; and, if we were able to be present at the convention, our opinions and votes would be given for its support. The Grand Lodge of Vermont has not voted to submit any propositions of its own to the convention; but in the election of the undersigned as delegates, left the subject to their discretion, without any other instructions than they should attend the convention, and participate in its deliberations and action.

"It is, we think, entirely obvious, that, to carry out the plan proposed to the efficiency at which it aims, particular care will be required in establishing the details for its practical action. Who or what body or bodies are to decide, when 'the importance of the case or the common welfare of the Fraternity' demand that action is necessary, under the confederate regulations, and what shall be the manner of proceeding to bring about that action, are things important to be specified with clearness, and appear to us to present strong difficulties in their satisfactory adjustment.

"We ardently hope, however, that these, and all other points of difficulty, will be overcome by the wise and prudent action of the convention, and that a system may be perfected by it which will commend itself to the Grand Lodges of the States, and remedy some of the serious difficulties which are now injuring the Fraternity, by impairing its character and restricting its usefulness.

"We are, brethren, most truly and fraternally yours,

"NATHAN B. HASWELL,
"PHILIP C. TUCKER.

"Burlington, Vt., December 29th, 1854."

The Right Worshipful Finlay M. King, from the committee to whom had been referred the resolution and substitute relating to the formation of a National Organization, submitted the following report; which, on motion of Most Worshipful William Hendrix, was accepted:

"*To the National Masonic Convention*—The committee to whom was referred the resolution offered by the Right Worshipful Bro. Smith of Michigan, and the substitue therefor, offered by the Right Worshipful Bro. King, of New York, beg leave respectfully to submit the following preamble and articles of confederation, as containing their conclusions upon said resolution and substitute, and as embodying a plan for uniting the Grand Lodges of the United States, upon a basis the least objectionable in its character and the most feasible and serviceable in its operations and results, viz.:

"Preamble.—For the purpose of establishing a unity of interest among the Grand Lodges of the United States—a unity of design and purpose—and of securing mutual confidence between them, and promoting the

general welfare of the Fraternity, said Grand Lodges do ordain and establish the following

"ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION—Article I. All matters of difficulty which may hereafter arise in any Grand Lodge, or between two or more Grand Lodges of the United States, which cannot, by their own action, be satisfactorily adjusted or disposed of, shall, if the importance of the case or the common welfare of the Fraternity demand it, be submitted, with accompanying evidence and documents, to the several Grand Lodges in their individual capacities; and the concurrent decision thereon of two-thirds of the whole number, officially communicated, shall be held authoritative, binding, and final on all parties concerned.

"Art. II. When any matter of difficulty shall arise, in any Grand Lodge belonging to this confederacy, between such Grand Lodge and its subordinates, of a revolutionary or other character, it shall be submitted, as prescribed in Article first, upon the request or direction of the Grand Lodge in which the same may have occurred.

"Art. III. When a difficulty shall have occurred between two or more Grand Lodges, of the character mentioned in Article first, it shall be so submitted upon the request or direction of either of the Grand Lodges immediately interested therein.

"Art. IV. Any member of the confederacy shall have the right to submit to the several members of the same, any question of Masonic jurisprudence or Masonic action, contemplated within its own jurisdiction, which may be deemed by it of sufficient importance to call for the united opinions of the members thereof; and in all such cases, the like action shall be had by the said Grand Lodges as is herein provided in other cases, and the decision thereupon shall be conclusive.

"Art. V. Each Grand Lodge belonging to this confederacy shall take action upon the matter so submitted to it, and make a decision thereupon at its first annual communication after the evidence and documents relating thereto shall have been received, unless, for the want of time and information, it shall be unable to arrive at a decision; and in this case it shall have until the next annual communication, at which time a decision shall be made.

"Art. VI. When any difficulty shall have arisen in any Grand Lodge, or between a Grand Lodge and its subordinates, or between two or more Grand Lodges, as mentioned in Articles second and third, the Grand Lodge submitting such difficulty, in manner as aforesaid, shall give notice, to the other party or parties concerned therein, of its intention to submit the same to the confederacy; and in case of the omission, neglect, or refusal of such other party or parties to supply the evidence and documents relating to such difficulty, in the manner prescribed in Article first, for three months from the time of the service of such notice, the members of the confederacy may proceed in the examination and decision

of the difficuty so submitted, upon the evidence and documents before them; provided, that when such difficulty exists between two or more Grand Lodges, the Grand Lodge or Grand Lodges which shall not have first decided upon such submission shall have three months after its next succeeding annual communication to supply such evidence and documents as aforesaid.

"Art. VII. From and after these Articles shall have been adopted by twenty of the Grand Lodges of the United States, their provisions shall be considered ratified; and all matters therein contemplated for adjustment shall then and thereafter take the course therein prescribed.

"Art. VIII. No Grand Lodge, which shall have united in this confederacy in manner as aforesaid, shall withdraw therefrom, until it shall have given twelve months' notice to each and every member of the confederacy of its intention to do so.

"Art. IX. These Articles may be altered, revised, or amended, by proposition in writing submitted by any one Grand Lodge, and concurred in by two-thirds of the Grand Lodges in this confederacy; and such alteration, revision, or amendment shall be operative and binding upon each and every member of the confederacy from the time of its adoption, in manner as aforesaid.

"All which is respectfully submitted.

"David Clopton,
"Finlay M. King,
"Alfred E. Ames,
"Charles Gilman,
"A. C. Smith.

"Washington, Jan. 4th, 1855."

The Right Worshipful A. C. Smith offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

"*Resolved*, That this national convention recognize most fully the principle, that no territory can be rightfully covered by more than one superior jurisdiction.

"*Resolved*, That this convention solemnly protest, in behalf of the Masonic Fraternity of the United States of America, against any foreign Grand Body exercising any Masonic jurisdiction within the limits of the accredited jurisdiction of any of the Grand Lodges of the American Union."

On motion of the Right Worshipful A. C. Smith,

"*Resolved*, That a committee of five be appointed by the convention, to draft an address to the Grand Lodges of the United States, upon the subject of the proposed confederation, soliciting their early action thereupon.

Whereupon the following brethren were appointed such committee: Most Worshipful David Clopton, Right Worshipful A. C. Smith, Right

Worshipful Finlay M. King, Most Worshipful Charles Gilman, and Most Worshipful Benjamin B. French, who, by their chairman, subsequently presented the following address to the Grand Lodges of the United States.

"The undersigned were appointed a committee to present to your consideration, and for your action, the accompanying 'Articles of Confederation,' which were adopted by the convention that assembled in Washington City, on the first Wednesday in January. It was matter of regret to the members of that convention that so few of the Grand Lodges were represented; as, 'in the multitude of counsel, there is wisdom;' and, more especially, as its proceedings were not considered obligatory upon any Grand Lodge, unless subsequently approved and ratified. Those who did attend endeavored to arrange a plan that would intrinsically recommend itself to the favorable consideration of the several Grand Lodges, and secure, if possible, the co-operation of a sufficient number to guarantee a fair and impartial experiment.

"That a diversity of opinion would exist among the members of the convention, was naturally to have been expected, otherwise they would have been more than human. Coming from different sections, viewing the condition of Masonry from difierent stand-points, and entertaining conflicting opinions of the economy of its government, the only thing remarkable is, that the convention was finally unanimous in the result of its deliberations. Some believed that anything short of a General Grand Lodge, invested with supreme powers (original or appellate) in certain respects, or with certain defined limitations, would prove wholly inefficient, whilst others entertained apprehensions with regard to any national organization whatever. The former, being assured that any attempt to form a Supreme Grand Lodge would be futile, at least for the present, and, that a sufficient number of the Grand Lodges could not be induced to enter into such an organization, so as to endue it with efficacy and secure unanimity, with a spirit truly magnanimous and Masonic, yielded their preconceived opinions, and united with the other members of the convention in the effort to arrange and mature a plan which, on the one hand, would leave unimpaired the supremacy and sovereignty of the Grand Lodges, and, on the other hand, would be efficient in promoting peace and harmony, and effecting uniformity in the interpretation of the usages and customs, and in the construction of the Ancient Constitutions of Masonry. The plan herewith submitted to you is the result of this reconciliation of conflicting opinions.

"Since the formation and adoption of a National Constitution, the great want of Free Masonry, as it has existed in the United States, has been a closer bond of union between the different Grand Lodges. The condition of the Masonic institution in this country is, to some extent, an anomalous one, very different from what it is in other countries and under other forms of government. We have our respective Grand Lodges,

exercising jurisdiction co-extensive with the territorial limits of the State; nevertheless, there is still need of some national arrangement, by which these Grand Bodies shall be united in the bonds of economy, as well as fraternity. As members of the same great political family, it is true that we cherish toward each other closer ties and warmer attachments than to other and foreign branches of the Masonic brotherhood; but then these exist only in our sensibilities and feelings—not in the reality of a practical system.

"To remedy this defect in the governmental organization of Masonry, and to supply the necessity of a more intimate union, and a regular and permanent intercourse, the idea of a National Grand Body was conceived and proposed by the Grand Lodge of Georgia, as early as 1790. A sufficient number not having responded favorably, the effort failed, and was abandoned. Since that period several attempts have been made to accomplish the same design, but with like success.

"Whilst the history of these various propositions and efforts to organize a Supreme Grand Lodge demonstrates that any further attempt would be ineffectual, it also shows conclusively that ever since the formation of our National Political Union, the necessity of a National Masonic Union of some character, has been recognised and felt by prominent members of the Fraternity.

"We cannot depart from the 'ancient landmarks,' or change the ritual and work of the Craft. Notwithstanding this, Free Masonry has, in all ages and in all countries, adapted itself, in the economy and policy of its government, to the social and political institutions of the particular country and age when and where it has existed. The chief element of its success consists in this adaptability to the local customs and changes, and to the various phases of society. When the necessity arose for a departure from the original organization of Operative Masonry, and of one Grand Master for the whole brotherhood in all places, it was this principle that put into operation the present system of Speculative Masonry, and distinct and independent Grand Lodges in distinct and independent countries. In Europe, one Grand Lodge, co-extensive with each sovereign government, was all sufficient, and most nearly assimilated to their political systems and principles. Not so in America; here existed separate colonies—there, separate and independent States; hence, there must be separate and independent Grand Lodges. These, however, do not answer the full wants of Masonry. As the political relation between the several States is of much closer intimacy than that which exists between different countries, so the Masonic relation between the Grand Lodges of the United States should be of closer intimacy than that which exists between the Grand Lodges of separate foreign countries.

"It is not intended to be inferred from these remarks, that there ought to be a Supreme Grand Lodge, analogous, so far as it can be made, to our

general government; for Masonry, whilst it ought to assimilate to the political institutions of a people, cannot be expected to reflect their exact image. We do not infer from them, however, the necessity of some plan—call it a National Confederation, or by any other name, which will make that union a living, active, working reality—a union of brothers—of closer bonds of fraternity, of feeling and action—a practical union, that will make these bonds more efficient for good, and illustrate a unity of interest.

"It is the privilege of the American people to behold, daily, an increased intercourse between the citizens of the various States, in the way of business, travel, and the interchange of socialities. The manifold ways of intercommunication, now erected, and in process and contemplation of erection, are uniting, by routes more or less direct, each part of the country to every other part, and constantly opening new channels of commerce and travel. By these means we are also brought into more frequent communication as Masons. A National Masonic Confederation will have the tendency to make this now frequent and increasing communication more abundant in good and more effective in binding together the entire Fraternity.

"We would not disparage the nearness of the universal Masonic tie, or the strength of that cement which unites the whole Fraternity into a society of friends and brothers; still no one can deny the operation, in Masonry, of that principle which forms a part of our human nature, and which receives, as dearer to us, those who belong to our immediate family than those more distantly connected—a brother than a friend. We may go to the house of a hospitable neighbor or acquaintance, and feel all the ease and freedom of a welcome; but when we go to the house of a brother we feel that it is next to home. Likewise it is in Masonry. Those who realize that their interests and destiny are common, are bound by cords which draw them more closely together, and feel a sympathy otherwise unfelt and unknown—a more ardent desire to 'promote each other's welfare.' This feeling, too, is capable of expansion; and, by means of a national organization, instead of being confined to the limits of a state, would be bounded by the limits of the Union.

"One of the greatest evils which has attended the condition of the institution in this country, has been a diversity of opinion concerning Masonic laws and usages, and the proper jurisdiction and rights of the several Grand Lodges. Every disagreement which has occurred between any of the Grand Lodges of the United States has been produced by the assertion of a right by one, which another has denied, or a claim of jurisdiction, which another has resisted. If these were uniformly understood by all the Grand Lodges, this chief danger of alienation of feeling would be removed, each moving in the same direction, guided by the same landmarks, and observing the same great principles, it is impossible that a collision could ever result; entire harmony would prevail between

them, just as in the solar system, where many planets move in concord, because each moves in an assigned sphere.

"Whilst great respect is entertained and manifested by the different Grand Lodges for the well considered opinions of each other, yet these opinions, when expressed, carry with them no authority, but are free to be disregarded. To accomplish this great desideratum, and secure that uniformity which is the support of Masonry, some plan must be devised by which these opinions, when expressed upon proper occasions, will possess weight, and power, and obligation. Like judicial opinions, they must have the force of precedent, of solemn adjudications; they must be the utterances of a tribunal intelligent enough to command respect, august enough to command deference, and strong enough to command observance, at least by its moral power. A tribunal of *wisdom, beauty and strength.* The convention believes that the plan herewith proposed will as nearly accomplish this object as any plan can whose arrangement is compatible with the other rights and interests of the Grand Lodges.

"Having thus endeavored to demonstrate the necessity of a more complete Masonic union than at present exists, it is proper for us to consider briefly, but more specifically, the details of the scheme adopted by the convention.

"By an investigation of the principles upon which the proposed confederation is organized, it will be observed that it fully recognizes the supremacy and sovereignty of each Grand Lodge. It does not disrobe them of any authority; it does not divest them of any power; it does not deprive them of any right; whilst it avoids the objections usually urged to the formation of a General Grand Lodge, it provides the means, the sure means, of obtaining their aggregate voice upon any disputed or debated question. Without great central power, which is prone to grow stronger, and to absorb all subordinate authority, unless properly checked and restricted, Masonic honor and faith are pledged to a regard to its duly expressed opinions and decisions. Thus, it is invested with a moral power, which, with Masons, is more than physical force.

"The scheme, in one aspect, is simply this: Upon any occasion of difficulty or disagreement between two or more Grand Lodges, the one says to the other, 'We will submit our matter of difference to the arbitrament of our sister Grand Lodges, who are our peers, and who, although disinterested in our particular case, have yet the highest interest in attaining the great end of truth and right, and in protecting the universal interests of Masonry.' In another aspect—when any internal commotion may happen, the Grand Lodge, whose peace is thus disturbed has the means, and is hereby invited to take counsel with her sister Grand Lodge. Thus simplified and considered, the scheme is not liable to the objections of those who entertain apprehensions concerning any national organization.

"Neither are the Grand Lodges to incur the expense of sending delegates to meet in some great council, there to reflect, deliberate and decide the matters which may be submitted to the confederation. No additional expense is entailed upon them. When any occasion may arise requiring the action of the confederation, each Grand Lodge decides for itself, in its own hall, at its regular communication, and according to its own judgment, unbiassed by the presence or influence of parties interested. Instead of the wisdom, learning, and intelligence of a limited number of delegates, there will be the aggregate wisdom, learning, and intelligence of all the members of all the Grand Lodges, each exercising its individual intellect.

"There can be no danger of any usurpation of power. The confederation, either upon the request of one member, or a majority of the members, or otherwise, cannot take jurisdiction of any matter without the voluntary submission of one of the parties involved. Any decision that might be made, however unanimous, without a compliance with the provisions of the Articles, would be '*coram non judice*,' a mere assumption without legal or moral force.

"The committee deem it unnecessary to review all the details of the plan, but simply to present its prominent features. The convention did not expect to mature a perfect plan. It is an experiment. Time must develop the deficiencies, and ample provision is made for the alteration or amendment of the Articles.

"One other consideration: It is recognized, as a well settled principle in the Masonic jurisprudence of this country, that the jurisdiction of a Grand Lodge extends with the territorial limits of the State in which it is located. The Grand Lodges of other countries do not recognize or observe this principle. They claim the right to organize Lodges and exercise power in all places. Upon the maintenance of this principle, as between our own Grand Lodges, depend their peace and harmony; and, upon its observance by foreign Grand Lodges, so far as relates to the United States depend the preservation of peace and harmony between them and our Grand Lodges. Without it, we are liable every day to have Lodges established in our midst, under the authority of some Grand Lodge. Accustomed to listen to the voice of a supreme head only, an expression of this sentiment by the several Grand Lodges of the Union, individually, will not have the same effect upon them as its expression by an organization having the air and semblance, at least, of nationality and supremacy. Hence, to secure ourselves against invasion from abroad, two things must concur—a national objection and opposition and a more thorough union.

"We hope that the Grand Lodges will consider the plan worthy of a trial, and that a National Confederation may be found a wall of protec-

tion—a cord of union—the means of preserving peace and harmony, promoting the general welfare of the Fraternity, and exciting that noble 'contention or emulation who can best work and best agree.'

"David Clopton,
"A. C. Smith,
"Finlay M. King,
"Charles Gilman,
"B. B. French."

Texas.—The journal of the eighteenth annual communication of this Grand Lodge, held at the city of San Antonio, January 15th, A. D. 1855, A. L. 5855, with a representation from sixty-three Lodges. This volume of 272 pages, of their meeting, contains a vast deal of matter, which is purely of a local nature; nothing therein that we deem of sufficient importance to call your attention.

Most Worshipful E. B. Nichols, was elected Grand Master, and A. S. Ruthven, Grand Secretary.

North Carolina.—The Grand Lodge of this State held its annual communication, December 4th, 1854, in the city of Raleigh.

The most interesting portion of the Grand Master's address is that which relates to the subject of St. John's College. It appears that the subject has been progressing for some years, and the President of the Board of Trustees, by his report, shows the state of their finances: paid for their college lands at Oxford, $4500, cash in hand, $1239.22, subscriptions unpaid, $17,519, for rent, $140, making in all, $23,398.22.

They resolve to prosecute the work.

We see nothing more of sufficient moment to call attention.

Most Worshipful Clement H. Jordan was re-elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

New York.—This Grand Lodge held their annual meeting on the 9th day of June, A. D. 1855. Their journal commences August 29th, 1854, containing special and quarterly meetings, 165 pages. At a special meeting of the Grand Steward's Lodge, held September 15th, 5854, "the case of the appeal of William Waller against the action of Henry Clay Lodge, No. 277, in expelling him from the rights and privileges of Free Masonry, was taken up, and the testimony taken thereon, whereupon the following resolutions were adopted:

"*Resolved*, That Henry Clay Lodge, No. 277, erred in the trial and expulsion of Bro. Waller, in the following particulars:

"1st. In not furnishing Bro. Waller with a copy of the charges and specifications.

"2d. In not giving him an opportunity to plead guilty or not guilty to them.

"3d. In examining the accused as a witness against himself.

"4th. In taking the evidence of brothers, as to what had been stated to them by other persons.

"5th. In refusing to examine, as witnesses, persons who were not Masons.

"6th. In not reducing the proceedings of the trial, and the testimony taken, to writing, and having it signed by the witnesses examined.

"7th. In excluding the accused from the room during the examination of the witnesses.

"8th. In taking the vote on his expulsion out of the regular order of business, immediately after the opening of the Lodge, and without any motion for that purpose having been made.

"*Resolved*, That the action of said Lodge, and without any motion for that purpose having been made—

"*Resolved*, That the action of said Lodge, in expelling Bro. Waller, be and the same is hereby reversed.

"*Resolved*, That the case be sent back to said Lodge, for a new trial, and that the said Lodge is hereby directed to furnish the accused with a copy of the charges, give him an opportunity to plead thereto, examine witnesses that shall be offered in the presence of the accused, and give him an opportunity to cross-examine them, and reduce the testimony taken to writing, and have it signed by the persons testifying.

"*Resolved*, That the evidence of persons not Masons shall be taken under the following restrictions: The witness shall be sworn before some one authorized to administer an oath, his testimony reduced to writing, and subscribed by him in the presence of the parties, who shall have full opportunity to examine."

The annual communication opened with a representation from 239 Lodges.

The Grand Master (Joseph D. Evans), in his address, pays a beautiful tribute to the memory of Bro. John Van Buren, Past Senior Grand Warden of that Grand Lodge. He says, his soul "has taken its everlasting flight; his well known seat is vacant; it was, as you well recollect, always near the East. His manly form, benignant demeanor, and unobtrusive deportment are vividly impressed upon our memory. He was ever watchful of the true interests of our institution, a friend to the needy and oppressed, and a firm and unflinching adherent to our ancient laws and regulations; in his death we have sustained a great loss, but we have the consolation afforded by the happy reflection, that he has gone to meet a rich reward, and his memory will ever flourish as the green bay tree."

In speaking of the confederation of Grand Lodges, as proposed by the delegates who met last at the city of Washington, he says: "I sincerely wish I could give it my hearty approval; were it encumbered with but

one of its many objections, viz.: uselessness, it might have my concurrence; but I think I perceive, in the future, dissatisfactions, heart-burnings, strife, and contentions. There would be warrings between the confederation and other bodies who are not its members.

"We have a tribunal now, before whom an offender may be brought, with or without his consent, and made to abide its decision; this confederation would only encumber the wheels of justice; it would produce new obstacles, and result in new issues; upon the whole, I can perceive no possible good to arise from it."

The committee to whom was referred the above, as also the report of their delegates, made a report, and recommended the adoption of the following resolution; which was accepted, and laid on the table:

"*Resolved*, That the preamble and the nine Articles of Confederation set forth in the report of the delegates to the National Convention, which was held at Washington, D. C., on the 3d and 4th days of January last, be and are hereby adopted by this Grand Lodge, and the Grand Lodge hereby pledges itself to abide by, and conform to all the provisions in said Articles, and so much of resolutions No's 8 and 9, which were appended to the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for 1853, and are printed on page 214 of the annual transactions of this Grand Lodge for that year, and were adopted by it, and which were again adopted by this Grand Lodge, in 1854, as appears by its annual transactions for that year, at pages 174 and 175, as is inconsistent with the said Articles of Confederation, be and the same is hereby repealed." It was afterwards called up and again laid on the table.

He further reports, that the most influential members of Pythagoras Lodge, No. 86, had abandoned their irregular position, acknowledge again their allegiance to the Grand Lodge, and applied for the return of their old charter; they were granted a dispensation.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is from the able and ready pen of Bro. Finlay M. King, its chairman. We never look into one of his reports, but see the evidence of the practical workings of a well balanced and well informed mind.

In the review of the proceedings of this State for 1854, relative to the proposed General Grand Lodge, after quoting our resolution of the disapprobation of the measure, he says:

"Believing as we do, from the entire harmlessness of the measure, on the one hand, and its great prospective usefulness on the other, that the proposed confederation will be formed by the Grand Lodges of the United States, we cannot but express our regret at this indication that we may not have the benefit of the learning and intelligence of our esteemed brethren of New Jersey to aid us in carrying out its beneficial designs; yet we hope, on a re-examination of the subject, as presented by the National Convention of January last, the Grand Lodge of New Jersey

may be induced to alter its conclusion;" and also concludes by calling our attention to the remarks of their committee, in their last year's report (1854), declining the proposition in the review of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Alabama.

In relation to this matter of difference, in bringing a new head to our Fraternity, we think it might be harmless and useful, and it might not; and it *may* be formed by the action of the several Grand Lodges, but that does not alter our opinion of our ability for self-government, inasmuch as we well know our *entire* harmony since the period of our organization, in 1786. It is in a measure conveying away a part of our independence without any consideration, prospective or otherwise, and would our New York friends be satisfied to be summoned, with all others of the Masonic Fraternity in that State, to appear before them ready for trial, and agree to abide the decision? We think not. They number some of the most able of the great family of the United States, or elsewhere, and certainly second to none in wealth, numbers and influence, and, no doubt, feel as much inclined to legislate and arbitrate all their own matters of difference as any one else, and we suppose a re-examination of the subject would produce the same result as we have three times voted upon.

In relation to their review of the Grand Lodge of Alabama, upon the offer of mediation of Massachusetts and Virginia, to which Bro. King calls our attention, we find embraced in seven reasons, some of which are lengthy, and inasmuch as we published the other side, we cannot refuse to copy their reply, when called upon, viz.:

"The Grand Lodge of New York rests upon the same foundation of Masonic law and Masonic principles that form the basis of all the Grand Lodges of the Union; and, being conscious of this fact, it cannot permit itself to be voluntarily placed in a situation that would lead to a recession from the just and high grounds it has heretofore taken in preserving its honor and integrity.

"2. It cannot be a party to a measure which might lead to a restoration or accumulation of an irresponsible representative power in the Grand Lodge which it has lopped off from a sense of imperious duty, and to preserve the jurisdiction from impending ruin.

"If we could persuade ourselves that it would be right or expedient for the Grand Lodge of New York, having a constituency of nearly three hundred Lodges, including at least three-fourths of all the Lodges in the cities of New York and Brooklyn, and whose memberships outnumber any jurisdiction in the western hemisphere, to dissolve their organization for the purpose of pacifying ten or a dozen contumacious Lodges in the city of New York, we have no assurance that a mediation involving this result would be accepted by the schismatics; nor does the Masonic character of these schismatics afford much guaranty against the repeti-

tion of the same scenes of violence and outrage with which their rebellion commenced.

"4. We conceive that a proposition for mediation between the Grand Lodge of New York, or any other regular Masonic body, and the *Scottish rite* organizations of the city of New York would require an abandonment of all self-respect, and would be conceding to them *some grounds* for continuing their unlawful assemblies, for which there is not now, in truth, the shadow of a pretext. If the proposed mediation shall be unsuccessful in inducing them to abandon their organizations, it would be a *quasi* acknowledgment of the rightfulness of their position.

"5. The individuals who are connected with, and who have resuscitated what they are pleased to call 'St. John's Grand Lodge,' are of such material that the Fraternity can derive no benefit from their connection with it, and it is the opinion of this committee that it is infinitely better for the interests of the Craft that they should remain out of the Fraternity, than be permitted to return into it.

"6. A proffer of mediation to those bodies in the city of New York, which pretend to derive authority for their Masonic existence from the Grand Lodge of Hamburg, would, of course, be a direct acknowledgment to them and the Grand Lodges of Europe, that the principles of indivisible sovereignty and of Grand Lodge supremacy, which universally prevail among the Grand Lodges of the United States, *are matters of compromise!* To imagine, for a moment, that these principles are legitimate subjects of arbitration, is to imagine that the Grand Lodges of America can part with portions of their sovereignty, and yet maintain their rightful authority within their jurisdiction. Until the long indifference and indecisive action of the Grand Lodges of this country shall have given sufficient encouragement to the progressive Grand Lodges of Europe, to have permitted them to establish their colonies in every city of the Union, and to have prostrated the authority and destroyed the supremacy of every Grand Lodge in this confederacy, we believe the Grand Lodge of New York will never make this concession. If, instead of offering to compromise principles that are so important, so vital to the existence of Ancient Craft Masonry on this western continent, the Grand Lodges of Missouri, of Alabama, and of the whole Union shall meet such unwarranted invasions at the threshold and declare the invaders to be irregular and clandestine, and forbid all fellowship and intercourse with them and the authors of their unhallowed encroachments, they will preserve their temples from crumbling, and perpetuate their existence and vouchsafe their blessings to a grateful posterity for many succeeding generations. But if, on the other hand, they wink at these encroachments, and fellowship with their perpetrators, and allow them to visit their Lodges, the canker-worms of decay and dissolution will feed upon their vitals till

their life-blood has gone, and their glory and honor, and authority and power, have departed to return no more.

"7. The parties above designated are, we believe, the only ones with whom a mediation could possibly have any office to perform in this jurisdiction; for, as to any illegal organizations within the body of the Fraternity, or any refractory conduct on the part of any of the members of this Grand Lodge or its subordinates, we have far greater confidence in the remedial measures that are within the power of the Grand Lodge to adopt, if these measures be not neutralized by indiscreet action abroad, than in any mediation that can be offered."

In the conclusion of his report, he enumerates "the representatives of the Grand Lodge of New York near foreign Grand Lodges," but we do not see the name of the Right Worshipful William Kerwood, their accredited representative near our Grand Lodge. A more zealous and faithful representative could not have been appointed by them here, having been a member of his Lodge for forty-six years past, and we are not aware of the recall of the authority to him issued, that is signed by General Morgan Lewis, then Most Worshipful Grand Master of that Grand Lodge—an error, no doubt, for we cannot believe otherwise.

There is a vast fund of interesting matter on most all subjects not yet glanced at, but as we have largely drawn from their journal, we must forbear.

We also acknowledge the printed copy of the commission, with the direct and cross-interrogatories, and answers to each, taken in the city of London, on a trial now pending in the Supreme Court of the State of New York, growing out of their riotous meeting of the Grand Lodge some years since.

Most Worshipful Joseph D. Evans was re-elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful James M. Austin, Grand Secretary.

South Carolina.—The proceedings before us are of meetings held during the year 1854, in which are stated a great many interesting subjects, but too long for us to attempt to give a synopsis of them, and especially the one entitled "Descriptive Discourse," by the Grand Secretary, explanatory of the symbolic decorations, which had been placed upon the walls of the Lodge room, is very beautiful and interesting.

Most Worshipful Alfred Price was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Albert G. Mackey, M. D., Grand Secretary.

We also acknowledge the receipt of the address of Bro. S. Henry Dickson, M. D., LL. D., delivered before the Grand Lodge at the Centennial Anniversary, December 27th, 5854.

Vermont.—The second edition of the years A. L. 5846–7 of their published proceedings.

Most Worshipful Nathan B. Haswell was Grand Master, and John B. Hollenbeck, Grand Secretary.

MISSISSIPPI.—The book of 376 pages before us contains the minutes and names of the members of the several Subordinate Lodges of this State for the year 1855, in which we note with pleasure the very interesting report on Foreign Correspondence from the pen of Bro. Mellen, the chairman.

Most Worshipful Giles M. Hillyer was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful William P. Mellen, Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND.—The journal before us contains the minutes of their proceedings from May, 1854, to November, 1854.

At the annual communication, held at Baltimore, November 20th, the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, among other things, after copying the preamble and resolution relative to Diogenes Lodge, No. 22, being in the habit of exchanging visits with Pythagoras Lodge, of the city of New York, to be found upon our journal, pages 190–1–2–3–4, session of 1854, [page 530, &c., of this book], say:

"Your committee are glad they are enabled to say, that the Grand Lodge of New Jersey refused to adopt these views of the committee, though the report was accepted. Would it not have been better had the report been rejected altogether? thus showing their decided approval of all refractory disorganizers among her own subordinates. And would it not have been well, coming up, as the subject did, directly before the Grand Lodge, had that body expressed its disapprobation of this interference of the Grand Lodge of Hamburg with the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New York? It would seem to have been a fit opportunity to denounce the act (as every Grand Lodge has done that has expressed itself on the subject) as discourteous, contrary to received Masonic usage, and fraught with the elements of disunion and infinite mischief.

"Your committee have brought forward this report of the New Jersey committee, as another evidence of the character of 'the spirit of the age,' to show how necessary it is that Grand Lodges pursue the even tenor of their ways, not turning to the right hand nor to the left in pursuit of novelties, lest they forget the things that make for their peace."

We are inclined to think the writer of the above comment on our proceeding a little too harsh, for a Lodge, as well as a brother, who may wander from the beaten track, with kind admonitory words and reason, may be reclaimed and brought back to the fold, for we are led to believe that "a soft answer turneth away wrath, but grievous words stir up anger."

They conclude with the following resolution, which we commend to the serious consideration of every Grand Lodge:

"*Resolved*, That a committee of three, of which the Most Worshipful Grand Master shall be one, and the chairman, be appointed, in their discretion, to employ some suitable person to compile a history of Free Masonry in Maryland."

The trustees of the Grand Charity Fund report the sum of $13,095.24, and a Grand Lodge Fund, in addition, of $36,600.

Most Worshipful Charles Webb was re-elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Joseph Robinson, Grand Secretary.

Louisiana.—The annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held at New Orleans, February 12th, 1855.

The Grand Master, in his address, puts forward this question, and decides it in the true light:

"The question, whether a Lodge can confer the degrees on a minister of the gospel gratis, or remit the amount of fees therefor, or donate to him the amount thereof, seems to be still unsettled in the minds of some. This Grand Lodge has decided that it would be a violation of the spirit of our constitution to confer the degrees gratuitously, or remit the amount; and I have maintained on this, as on other questions, that manifest and intentional evasions of the constitution are to be regarded as violations of it, and that no Lodge has any right to confer degrees on ministers, or any other persons, without exacting the payment of the sums stipulated in our constitution. Entertaining, as I do, the most profound respect for the sacred office, and always willing to manifest it on proper occasions, I do, nevertheless, most positively object to the recognition of any such distinctions in our Lodges."

We find nothing further in this journal to note, it being of a local character.

Most Worshipful William M. Perkins was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Samuel G. Risk, Grand Secretary.

Pennsylvania.—We have before us the pamphlet of this State, containing a very brief abstract of the proceedings of their meetings, held 1854, principally the address of their Grand Master.

Most Worshipful James Hutchinson was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful William H. Adams, Grand Secretary.

Georgia.—This Grand Lodge sends us a well filled journal of 150 pages, of their annual communication, held at Macon, the 31st day of October, A. D. 1854, with a representation from 189 Lodges.

Most Worshipful William C. Dawson, Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Simri Rose, Grand Secretary.

Massachusetts.—The proceedings before us are of the annual communication, held in the city of Boston, December 13th, A. L. 5854.

Most Worshipful Winslow Lewis was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Charles W. Moore, Grand Secretary.

Connecticut.—This Grand Lodge presents us with a document containing the proceedings of their annual communication, held at Hartford, May 9th and 10th, A. L. 5855, in which we find nothing of interest, except the very able and lengthy written report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, by Bro. William Storer, the chairman. He, no doubt, has bestowed a vast deal of labor and thought in compiling this interesting document.

Most Worshipful Theodore Spencer was elected Grand Master, and Eliphalet G. Storer, Grand Secretary.

Missouri.—This Grand Lodge convened in the city of St. Louis, May 28th, A. D. 1855, A. L. 5855, with a representation from 53 Lodges.

The Grand Master, after rendering thanks to the Most High for His watchful care over them the Masonic year, announces the health, prosperity and happiness of the Craft, peace with all sister Grand Lodges, and everything of an unpleasant nature settled to the satisfaction of all parties.

The condition of the college seems to wholly engross his attention; the institution seems to be in a very flourishing condition and on a solid foundation; the annual catalogue represents 135 students as being connected with said institution.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is from the able pen of Bro. Foster, who always serves up good fare.

Most Worshipful L. S. Cornwall was re-elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful A. O'Sullivan, Grand Secretary.

Maine.—The Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge was held on the 3d day of May, A. D. 1855, in the city of Portland, with representatives from 61 Lodges.

The Grand Master, on the resuscitation of dormant Lodges, says:

"I have been unable to find any authority vesting me with power to resuscitate a dormant Lodge that has not surrendered its charter to the Grand Lodge, and especially when its original members had been reduced to a less number than is required for the formation of a new Lodge, and they asking for authority to meet and discharge the duties of Masonry in a town where they were not originally located by their charter.

"Entertaining these views, I have not considered it within my province to grant their prayer. I doubt not, however, that the brethren composing these petitioners are entitled to the highest esteem, both as men and Masons, and that the prosperity of the Fraternity in that vicinity would be

advanced by the resuscitation of that Lodge, I would, therefore, most cordially recommend them to your favorable consideration."

Undoubtedly the Grand Master is right in his view of the case. Without the original warrant, and with the requisite number of original petitioners, that defect could be cured under the circumstances, but less than that number, and at another location, would not be much, or not enough, to legally constitute a resuscitation.

We cannot part with this volume without noticing the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, written by Bro. Cyril Pearl; his comments are very forcible in their language, courteous and elaborately written.

Most Worshipful John Miller was elected Grand Master, and Charles B. Smith, Recording Grand Secretary.

INDIANA.—The annual communication of this Grand Lodge was held at the city of Indianapolis, May 28th, A. L. 5855, A. D. 1855.

The Grand Master, in his address, pays a glowing eulogy to the memory of Past Grand Master Elizur Deming, of that State, one of their bright and shining lights of the Craft.

He also reports twenty-two dispensations, granted the past year.

The Grand Secretary reports their receipts at $9425.61, expenditures $9237.80, balance on hand $187.81.

An excellent report on foreign correspondence is printed in their journal, carefully compiled with great labor.

At this Grand Communication, the Grand Master, on their behalf, presented Past Grand Master William Sheets a service of silver plate, worth at least five hundred dollars, for his services rendered as commissioner in the erection of their Grand Lodge Hall.

They have 187 Lodges, with 6577 members.

Most Worshipful Alexander C. Downey was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Francis King, re-elected Grand Secretary.

CALIFORNIA—The Grand Lodge held its annual communication at the city of San Francisco, the first day of May, A. D. 1855, A. L. 5855, with a representation from 39 Lodges.

The Grand Master reports having issued dispensations for 17 Lodges, which, in addition to their warranted Lodges, number eighty-two under their jurisdiction.

In speaking of the unexampled prosperity of the Fraternity in that State, he says:

"When we take into consideration the fact, that our Grand Lodge has been in existence only five years, and that it was formed of the smallest admissible number, there being only three chartered Lodges then in existence in California, (they holding under the several jurisdictions of

District of Columbia, Missouri, and Connecticut), with an aggregate membership of but little over half a hundred, we may well be astonished at the result which now meets our view whilst contemplating the unheard of spread of Free Masonry on these distant shores. There is no parallel to be found in its annals for so rapid an increase, nor can a more apparently healthful or prosperous condition, probably, be indicated elsewhere, than is to be found in this possible Ophir of the ancients. Yet appearances are often deceptive, and the elements of the storm are frequently engendering where the sky seems brightest and least likely to be overshadowed with clouds. The trite saying, that 'in the midst of life we are in death,' is no less true than that in the midst of prosperity we are surrounded by adverse, though unseen influences, and, while we are rejoicing at our safety, the elements of destruction may be quietly infusing themselves into the very fountains of our existence. We are prone to become thoughtless and careless during a period of fancied security, and, trusting to the calm surface of the common sea of events, to throw ourselves carelessly upon its bosom, and drift with the tide, heedless alike of our point of destination or of the company we suffer to embark with us. It is thus that an unparalleled state of prosperity, even in Masonry, may, in the end, be productive of untoward results. The watchmen sleep at their posts, the avenues to the Temple cease to be guarded with that unrelaxing vigilance that should ever characterize their sentinels, and we find, when it is too late, that our *sanctum* has been invaded by mercenary adventurers, who, with unclean hands and impure hearts, have smuggled themselves, as it were, into a fraternity, the principles of which have no affinity with the sentiments by which they were actuated, and the teachings of which are, and ever must be, utterly at variance with their feelings and practices. Such may be the case with us even now, and beneath this verdant surface of our fair land of Masonry may lie concealed the volcanic elements of discord and confusion. Whilst contemplating, then, with pride and exultation our numerical strength, and happily rejoicing at this untoward indication of prosperity, let us redouble our diligence, guard with increased vigilance the outer door, and ever bear in mind that our strength and safety depend not so much upon our numbers or our wealth as upon the general diffusion and practice of the sublime principles of our Fraternity. A chosen few, with even an empty treasury, but rich in those priceless jewels of Masonry, the remembrance of its precepts and its duties, are infinitely more desirable and of greater worth than myriads of an opposite character, with all the worldly emoluments that could be heaped upon them."

He complains very justly, of the practice of other Grand Lodges making Masons, while upon a visit, of residents of their jurisdiction, and, as a general thing, a growing and serious evil, of which we have had reason to complain; and as the complaint we find is very general, there is no

reason why States should not be strictly confined to their geographical and political limits.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence having made no mention of this Grand Lodge, we presume our journal has not reached them.

Most Worshipful William H. Howard was re-elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Alexander G. Abell, Acting Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND—The Grand Lodge of this State held their Grand Annual Communication on the 14th, 15th, and 16th of May, A. D. 1855, and meetings of the Grand Stewards Lodge, November, 1854, to April, 1855.

We notice an amendment was passed to their Constitutions limiting the fee of Baltimore Lodges not less than twenty-five dollars, and those out of that city not less than fifteen dollars, "provided, that any Lodge may confer the degrees without fee upon any minister of the Gospel."

Is it Masonic to give one class of persons greater privileges than others? We think not.

The following preamble and resolutions were read, and referred to the committee as nonaffiliated Masons:

"*Whereas*, It is well known to the Masonic Fraternity that the majority of applicants for visiting and soliciting charity from the various Lodges are nonaffiliated Masons, or, in other words, Masons who do not contribute, either their time or money, to the support of the institution, therefore be it

"*Resolved*, That it shall be the duty of every Subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge to demand satisfactory evidence from every person calling himself a Mason to show that he is a contributing member to some Lodge before he can be admitted into any Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge as a visitor, except in such cases where it is known that said visitor is visiting for the purpose of becoming a member of said Lodge, or when it is well known to the members that said visiting brother is only visiting for Masonic society or improvement."

NEW HAMPSHIRE—This Grand Lodge held their annual communication at the city of Concord, June 12th and 13th, A. L. 5855, in which we see nothing of interest to communicate.

Most Worshipful Ichabod G. Jordan was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Horace Chase re-elected Grand Secretary.

OREGON—We have before us the journal of the proceedings of this far western Grand Lodge; their communication was held at Portland, June 11th, A. D. 1855, A. L. 5855.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, as well as the special committee, submitted the following resolution, which was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That intemperance in the use of intoxicating drinks is an infraction of Masonic obligation, and is a good and legitimate cause for discipline, and should be punished as other offences."

Most Worshipful John C. Ainsworth was re-elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Benjamin Stack, Grand Secretary.

WISCONSIN—Their annual communication was held at the City of Milwaukie, June 12th, A. D. 1855, A. L. 5855, which are pretty much of a local nature.

Most Worshipful Henry M. Billings was re-elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful William R. Smith, Grand Secretary.

IOWA—The twelfth Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge was held at the town of Keosauqua, June 5th, A. D. 1855, A. L. 5855. The Grand Master reports that he has granted eighteen, and his deputy six dispensations, for the past year.

An excellent report on foreign correspondence is contained in their pamphlet, as likewise other interesting matter.

Most Worshipful Aylett R. Cotton was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful T. S. Parvin, Grand Secretary.

KENTUCKY—This Grand Lodge met in the city of Lexington, the 27th day of August, A. D. 1855, A. L. 5855.

A very able report on foreign correspondence, from the pen of Bro. Robert Morris, occupies a few pages of their journal. We regret that our proceedings failed to reach them, though sent.

We find nothing of interest to report at this time, their proceedings being pretty much of a local nature.

Most Worshipful David T. Monsarrat was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful John M. S. McCorkle, Grand Secretary.

MINNESOTA—This Grand Lodge held their Grand Annual Communication in the city of St. Paul, January 1st, A. D. 1855, A. L. 5855, in which we find nothing but matters purely of a local nature.

Most Worshipful Moses Sherburne was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Henry Reynolds, Grand Secretary.

ALABAMA—This Grand Lodge held its Annual Grand Communication in the city of Montgomery, on the 4th day of December, A. D. 1854, A. L. 5854. A very good report on foreign correspondence, from the pen of Bro. Daniel Sayre, their chairman, is spread upon their pages.

Most Worshipful Samuel Wood was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful A. P. Pfister, Grand Secretary.

Your committee have concluded their labors, and we trust our efforts to compile this report will not be unacceptable to the Grand Lodge.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JOS. H. HOUGH, *Chairman*.

Dated February 28th, A. D. 1856.

EMERGENT SESSION, 1856.

At an Emergent Meeting of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at Varick Lodge-room, in Jersey City, on the 9th of February, A. L. 5856, A. D. 1856, there being

PRESENT,

M. W. DANIEL BABBITT, Grand Master elect.
R. W. THEODORE R. VARICK, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN H. JANEWAY, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. JOSIAH J. BURGESS, Junior Grand Warden, p. t.
R. W. JOHN R. CHAPIN, Deputy Grand Secretary.
REV. W. JOHN L. LENHART, Grand Chaplain.
W. DAVID I. PLUME, Senior Grand Deacon, p. t.
W. HENRY R. CANNON, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
BRO. JOHN C. HARDY, Grand Tyler, p. t.

PAST GRAND MASTERS.—Jeptha B. Munn, of No. 1, Daniel B. Bruen, of No. 7.

VISITOR.—Bro. Walter Harris, of No. 1.

PAST MASTERS.—Simeon Harrison, —— Brown, —— Babbitt, William L. Wells, Edward Conmont, —— Andrews, and —— Gardiner of No. 11; Isaac Van Wagoner and Joseph S. Whitfield, of No. 29; George W. Dempsey, Alexander Driver, S. R. Tirrell and —— Robbins, of No. 31; William Wright, of No. 39; N. B. Cass, of Philadelphia, and L. H. Hopkins, of Lebanon, No. 191, New York.

The Right Worshipful Grand Lodge was opened in due form by the Deputy Grand Master, and declared at labor in the third degree of Masonry.

The Throne of Grace having been addressed by the Right Worshipful and Rev. John L. Lenhart, Grand Chaplain, the Deputy Grand Master stated the object of the Emergent Meeting to be the installation of the Most Worshipful Grand Master elect, Daniel Babbitt, into the Grand East. He therefore called upon Past Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen to perform the august ceremony.

The Grand East was assumed by Bro. Bruen, who proceeded to install the Most Worshipful Grand Master elect.

Bro. Josiah J. Burgess, of No. 31, moved a committee of three to examine what clothing the Grand Lodge was in possession of, with power to procure such as is necessary.

Bro. Isaac Van Wagoner, of No. 29, moved to amend, as follows:

That the Grand Secretary and Deputy Grand Secretary be a committee to procure clothing and jewels.

Bro. Deputy Grand Secretary Chapin moved, as a substitute, that the Grand Secretary and Deputy Grand Secretary be a committee to ascertain what clothing and jewels belong to this Grand Lodge, and that they have power to make up any deficiencies, and that the Grand Treasurer be instructed to pay for such as they may purchase; which was agreed to.

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No further business appearing, the Grand Lodge closed in peace and harmony.

JOHN R. CHAPIN, *Dep. G. Sec'y.*

SPECIAL SESSION, 1856.

At a Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at the "Masonic Hall," in the city of New Brunswick, on Tuesday, the 24th day of June, A. L. 5856, A. D. 1856, there being

PRESENT,

M. W. DANIEL BABBITT, Grand Master.
R. W. THEODORE R. VARICK, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN H. JANEWAY, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. CHARLES H. PIERSON, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. ELIAS PHILLIPS, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Grand Secretary.
R. W. JOHN R. CHAPIN, Deputy Grand Secretary.
W. JAMES M. CASSADY, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. GEORGE TAYLOR, Junior Grand Deacon, p. t.
Bro. CORNELIUS DE HART, Grand Tyler.

PAST GRAND MASTERS.—Jeptha B. Munn, of No. 1; Edward Stewart, of No. 39.

PAST MASTERS.—William Kerwood, of No. 5; Simeon Harrison, of No. 11; Joseph Trimble, of No. 15; Haley Fisk, of No. 19; Elias Runyon, of No. 26; Isaac Van Wagoner, of No. 29; James S. Green, jun., of No. 33; Peter I. Powless, of No. 35; Milton Baldwin, of No. 39.

VISITORS—Silas C. Halsey, A. J. Hedges, Amzi S. Dodd, and Aaron B. Whitehead, of No. 1; Daniel Bond, of No. 11; H. O. Cook, of No. 17; John B. Nicholson, Charles T. Warner, M. M. Lindheim, John C. Smith, A. D. Newell, Lewis G. Letson, John O'Neill, David F. Jefferies, Elias I. Thompson, and Abm. N. Schenck, of No. 19; Bethuel Ward and Alexander E. Donaldson, of No. 26; Alexander Driver, of No. 31; Francis Sayre, and James Gale, of No. 33; A. W. Stickler, of No. 35; J. W. Rounsavel, of No. 36; Joseph Munn, Sylvester Stater, M. W. Smith, and Augustus Baldwin, of No. 40; William W. Taylor, E. H. Doty, E. H. Jones, and R. G. Isham, of No. 41; Robert R. Taylor, Thomas W. West, and John E. Bolton, of No. 43; —— Blumenthall, of —— Lodge, No. —, Pennsylvania; Samuel Knapp, of Fidelity Lodge, No. 51, New York.

LODGES REPRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

William Silas Whitehead, M., Charles H. Pierson, S. W., Henry S. Boyden, J. W., St. John's, No, 1.

Not represented, Brearley, No. 2.

Job J. Lewis, M., Cincinnati, No. 3.

Not represented, Tuckerton, No. 4.

Edward W. Scudder, M., Charles H. Van Horn, S. W., Charles G. Updike, J. W., Trenton, No. 5.

James M. Pool, S. W., William E. Sturgis. J. W., Newark, No. 7.

Not represented, Clinton, No. 8.

George A. Tator, M., Francis Corlies, S. W., Washington, No. 9.

Not represented, Franklin, No. 10.

William B. Williams, M., Union, No. 11.

Charles A. Skillman, M., Amwell, No. 12.

Not represented, Warren, No. 13.

" " Mount Holly, No. 14.

Joseph Trimble, proxy for M., Camden, No. 15.

Not represented, Olive Branch, No. 16.

John Hilton, M., Hiram, No. 17.

Not represented, Harmony, No. 18.

George Taylor, M., Henry L. Janeway, S. W., Charles Dunham, J. W., Union, No. 19.

Henry F. Willis, M., Henry C. Byram, J. W., Rockaway, No. 20.

Not represented, Mystic Brotherhood, No. 21.

George Burgesser, M., Diogenes, No. 22.

Not represented, Harmony, No. 23.
" " Prospect, No. 24.
" " Northern, No. 25.
Henry R. Cannon, M., Joel R. Briant, J. W., Jerusalem, No. 26.
Crowell Marsh, M., Lafayette, No. 27.
Robert C. Buzby, M., Mount Moriah, No. 28.
Richard B. Chiswell, M., Robert O. Smith, S. W., John Hopper, J. W., Joppa, No. 29.
Not represented, Cape Island, No. 30.
Albert A. Rice, S. W., Varick, No. 31.
Not represented, Burlington, No. 32.
Lewis W. Oakley, J. W., Washington, No. 33.
Marston D. Trefren, M., Elijah K. Hall, S. W., Stewart, No. 34.
John W. Van Boskerck, M., Michael V. Banta, J. W., Hoboken, No. 35.
Not represented, Mansfield, No. 36.
Bennet Vansyckel, M., John F. Schenck, S. W., Willard Nichols, J. W., Darcy, No. 37.
Robert S. Green, M., John H. Margerum, S. W., Princeton, No. 38.
Frederick C. Dodd, M., David Dingwell, S. W., Henry L. Martin, J. W., Eureka, No. 39.
Simeon Baldwin, M., John Ehlers, S. W., Bloomfield No. 40,
Edward C. Taylor, M., James S. Yard, S. W., Hightstown, No. 41.
Not represented, Independence, No. 42.
Orrin Vanderhoven, M., Paterson Orange, No. 43.

The Grand Lodge was opened in due form, the Deputy Grand Master in the chair.

The subject of an uniformity of work was announced, as the first business in order.

Past Master William Kerwood moved a committee be appointed to suggest a correct mode of work, to be exemplified before this Grand Lodge; which was laid on the table.

On motion of Charles H. Pierson, of No. 1, that James M. Cassady, of No. 15, James S. Green, jun., of No. 33, John R. Chapin, of No. 10, Frederick W. Dodd, and Milton Baldwin, of No. 39, be a committee to exemplify the work upon the floor of this Grand Lodge.

The motion was amended, to substitute the Deputy Grand Master, and so agreed to.

The Chair proceeded to illustrate, as per resolution; and, after some time thereat, the Grand Lodge called off till four o'clock, P. M.

4 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor, and constituted as before, Bro. George A. Tator, of No. 9, acting as Junior Grand Warden, in place of Bro. Charles H. Pierson, of No. 1.

Past Master Isaac Van Wagoner, of No. 29, moved that the work, as stated by the Chair to the Grand Lodge, be the work for the balance of the year, and the four Grand Officers and five of our older brothers, be a committee to agree upon a system, to be submitted to the annual communication.

Bro. Edward W. Scudder, of No. 5, moved to lay on the table; which prevailed.

Past Master Isaac Van Wagoner, of No. 29, called up his motion just laid upon the table, and carried.

Committee—Isaac Van Wagoner, of No. 29, Haley Fisk, of No. 19, William Kerwood, of No. 5, William Wilson, of No. 12, and Joseph Trimble, of No. 15.

The Grand Lodge then closed in harmony and due form, to meet at the city of Trenton, on the first Wednesday after the second Tuesday in January, unless sooner convened by the proper authority.

New Brunswick, June 24th, A. L. 5856, A. D. 1856.

JOSEPH H. HOUGH, *Grand Secretary.*

JANUARY SESSION, 1857.

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New Jersey, held at the Odd Fellows Hall, corner of Hanover and Greene streets, in the city of Trenton, on Wednesday and Thursday, January 14th and 15th, A. L. 5857, A. D. 1857, there being

PRESENT,

M. W. DANIEL BABBITT, Grand Master.
R. W. THEODORE R. VARICK, Deputy Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN H. JANEWAY, Senior Grand Warden.
R. W. GEORGE FINCH, Junior Grand Warden.
R. W. ELIAS PHILLIPS, Grand Treasurer.
R. W. JOSEPH H. HOUGH, Grand Secretary.
R. W. JOHN R. CHAPIN, Deputy Grand Secretary.
Rev. & W. JOHN L. LENHART, Grand Chaplain.
W. JAMMS M. CASSADY, Senior Grand Deacon.
W. JAMES S. GAMBLE, Junior Grand Deacon, p.t.
W. WILLIAM M. BABBITT, Grand Marshal.
W. PETER J. POWLESS, Grand Swordbearer.
Bro. AMOS HOWELL, Grand Tyler.

Past Grand Master.—Daniel B. Bruen, of No. 7.

Past Deputy Grand Master.—Samuel Read, of No. 14.

Past Masters.—William Silas Whitehead, of No. 1; Sylvester Van Sickel, David Naar and Jonathan S. Fish, of No. 5; James J. Terhune, of No. 7; Moses Craig, of No. 8; George A. Tator, of No. 9; William B. Williams, of No. 11; William Wilson, Samuel Lilly and Charles A. Skillman, of No. 12; Anthony Phillips, of No. 14; Joseph Trimble, of No. 15; Samuel Laird, of No. 16; John Hilton, James A. Alexander and Chauncey Dygert, of No. 17; Silas A. Thompson, of No. 24; Richard B. Chiswell and Isaac Van Wagoner, of No. 29; John Rodgers, of No. 32; Wallace L. Crowell and Robert S. Green, of No. 33; John W. Van Boskerck, of No. 35; Orrin Vanderhoven, of No. 43.

Visitors.— —— McGinly, Thomas J. Corson and R. M. Smith, of No. 5; J. A. S. Crater and Pearson Hendrickson, of No. 9; R. M. Price and Hiram Ingalsbee, of No. 11; Levi Davis, of No. 14; James Yard and J. S. Buckelew, of No. 16; Joseph S. Whitfield, of No. 29; Dudley S. Gregory, jun., of No. 31; Samuel L. Moore and Francis Sayre, of

No. 33; John A. Perrine, of No. 38; Joseph Munn, of No. 43; F. S. Wolfe, of No. 41; Alexander Elwell, Joseph K. Hulme, George C. Brown, William H. Irick, Charles M. Harker, George R. Dunn, of Central, U. D.; David Neer, Allen Knowles, Samuel W. Goddard, of Benevolent, U. D.; James W. Low, of Bergen, U. D.; David P. Kenyon, Alexander E. Donaldson, of Solomon's, U. D.; Albert A. Rice, Alexander Driver, and Jonathan T. Thruston, of Enterprise, U. D.; M. I. Drummond, editor of Masonic Messenger, of Doric Lodge, No. 280, New York; John A. Laird, of Continental, No. 287, New York; S. Mendleson, of Orange, No. 43; M. M. Laird, of Eureka, No. 243, New York; —— Chambers, of Manhattan, No. 62, New York; Dor Ming, Hong Kong, China.

LODGES REPRESENTED AS FOLLOWS:

Anthony C. Beam, M., Isaac M. Tucker, S. W., Orson Wilson, J. W., St. John's, No. 1.

Joshua Bates, J. W., G. W. H. Whittaker, proxy, Brearley, No. 2.

Not represented, Cincinnati, No. 3.

" " Tuckerton, No. 4.

Edward W. Scudder, proxy for W. M., Charles G. Updyke, S. W., Trenton, No. 5.

Not represented, Lebanon, No. 6.

David I. Plume, M., Oscar J. Valentine, S. W., Thomas Jehu, J. W., Newark, No. 7.

Not represented, Clinton, No. 8.

Francis Corlies, M., Washington, No. 9.

Allen Osborne, proxy for W. M., Franklin, No. 10.

William P. Condit, M., Union, No. 11.

Not represented, Amwell, No. 12.

Samuel S. Clark, M., Warren, No. 13.

Thomas B. Woolston, M., William E. Bryan, S. W., William C. Thornbury, J. W., Mount Holly, No. 14.

Martin E. Hamstead, S. W., Camden, No. 15.

Not represented, Olive Branch, No. 16.

William H. Doggett, M., Isaac Van Saun, S. W., Hiram No. 17.

Not represented, Harmony, No. 18.

George Taylor, M., Union, No. 19.

Not represented, Rockaway, No. 20.

John E. Norris, M., William Hadden, S. W., Mystic Brotherhood, No. 21.

Frederick Harterick, M., Diogenes, No. 22.

David N. Deazley, M., Harmony, No. 23.

Silas A. Thompson, M., Prospect, No. 24.

George Booth, M., Northern, No. 25.

Henry R. Cannon, M., Stephen O. Horton, J. W., Jerusalem, No. 26.

George I. Trussler, J. W., Lafayette, No. 27.
Robert C. Buzby, M., Mount Moriah, No. 28.
John Hopper, S. W., Joppa, No. 29.
Not represented, Cape Island, No. 30.
Theodore Fitz Randolph, M., Nathaniel Rogers, S. W., William H. Dame, J. W., Varick, No. 31.
John F. Kelly, M., Burlington, No. 32.
Lewis W. Oakley, M., Washington, No. 33.
Marston D. Trefren, M,, Elijah K. Hall, S. W., Stewart, No. 34.
John W. Van Boskerck, Hoboken, No. 35.
A. P. Berthoud, M., Mansfield, No. 36.
John F. Schenck, M., George F. Crater, J. W., Darcy, No. 37.
Samuel Paxson, J. W., Princeton, No. 38.
Frederick C. Dodd, M., Henry L. Martin, J. W., Eureka, No. 39.
John Ehlers, M., Bloomfield, No. 40.
Edward C. Taylor, M., Jacob Stults, S. W., Hightstown, No. 41.
Not represented, Independence, No. 42.
Darius Wells, M., Paterson Orange, No. 43.
George C. Brown, S. W., Alexander Elwell, J. W., Central, U. D.
David Neer, M., Allen Knowles, S. W., Samuel W. Goddard, J. W., Benevolent, U. D.
Alexander E. Donaldson, S. W., David P. Kenyon, J. W., Solomon's, U. D.
James W. Low, M., Bergen, U. D.
Albert A. Rice, M., Alexander Driver, S. W., Enterprise, U. D.

The Grand Lodge was called to order, the Senior Grand Warden in the chair.

The Throne of Grace was addressed by Past Master William Wilson, of No. 12.

It was *Ordered*, That a Committee on Credentials be appointed.

The Chair appointed Past Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen, of No. 7, Henry R. Cannon, of No. 26, and David I. Plume, of No. 7.

It was *Ordered*, That the reading of the minutes of the last annual communication be dispensed with.

The minutes of the special meeting held at Jersey City, February 9th last, and also the one held at New Brunswick, June 24th, were read and approved.

The address of the Grand Master, and reports of the Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand

Warden, and Grand Secretary, were read, as follows, and ordered to be referred to the following committee, viz.: Past Masters Peter I. Powless, of No. 25, Orrin Vanderhoven, of No. 43, and Richard B. Chiswell, of No. 29.

ADDRESS OF GRAND MASTER.

Brethren of the Grand Lodge—The reunion of the Masonic Fraternity in annual communication cannot fail to be a source of pleasure and of profit to all who participate therein in a proper spirit.

United by mystic ties, no less sacred than those vows assumed at the hymeneal altar, or less binding than those which unite in one communion and fellowship the members of the Christian family, separation for a limited period serves only to increase the measure of connubial felicity, to strengthen the bonds of affection among Christian brethren, and to add to the pleasure of social intercourse among Masons, to an extent and in a way known only to the initiated.

These reflections, brethren, so far as they refer to Masonry, are, to him who addresses you, rather the reminiscences of past scenes than any realization of the present. Circumstances beyond his control having separated him from intercourse with his brethren in the Lodge room for more than a quarter of a century, on reappearing therein, although surrounded by everything calculated to remind him of the active labors and social pleasures in which he formerly participated, yet the pleasing reflection is chastened by the thought that the great majority of those with whom he was formerly associated have left the stage of action, and have ceased from their labor. A few only survive, and those few, with whitened locks, yet warm hearts, have been spared, we trust, by a kind Providence to aid in preserving the ancient landmarks of the Craft, and in transmitting, by oral tradition, the unwritten volume of Masonry to a succeeding generation. And on entering the Masonic temple, at each annual communication, this absence of many familiar faces we have been in the habit of meeting on similar occasions, should remind us that we, too, are fast traveling, on the level of time, to that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns.

These remarks, brethren, I trust will not be deemed inappropriate, emanating from one who, under such circumstances, was unexpectedly called to fill a station, the duties of which he felt incompetent to discharge with credit to himself or benefit to the Fraternity. The proffered honor would have been promptly declined, but for the assurance of cheerful and efficient aid tendered by one who was immediately connected with him in the performance of official duties. This pledge has been faithfully redeemed, as will appear from the report of the Deputy Grand Master,

and will account, I hope, satisfactorily for the limited amount of active official labors performed by myself.

During the past Masonic year, I have visited, by invitation, St. John's Lodge, No. 1, of Newark, visited and installed the officers of Bloomfield Lodge, No. 40, and have visited, unofficially, a few Lodges in my more immediate neighborhood. Warrants have been signed and issued to the new Lodges authorized by the Grand Lodge at their last annual communication. The one for Hackettstown Lodge is still in my hands, they being not yet ready to receive it.

The usual conditions having been complied with, I have granted dispensations to form new Lodges, as follows, viz.: one at Mount Holly, to be called Central Lodge; one at Paterson, to be called Benevolent Lodge; one at Bergen, to be called Bergen Lodge; one at Somerville, to be called Solomon's Lodge; one at Jersey City, to be called Enterprise Lodge; to resuscitate Olive Branch Lodge, at Freehold; to authorize the removal of Stewart Lodge from the White House to the village of Clinton, in the county of Hunterdon, upon their compliance with the usual terms.

I have granted dispensations to make Masons at sight to the following Lodges, viz.: St. John's, No. 1, Rockaway, No. 20, Newark, No. 7, Washington, No. 33 (in fees paid), Trenton, No. 5 (not used), Northern, No. 35.

I called and attended an emergent meeting of the Grand Lodge at New Brunswick, on St. John's Day, in the month of June, to consult on the best mode of producing uniformity of work in the Subordinate Lodges. The day was spent in discussing the subject, and, for further consideration and final action, it was referred to a committee, consisting of the first four Grand Officers and five other members; which committee afterwards met at Jersey City, and, I presume, are ready to report the result of their proceedings by their chairman, Bro. Van Wagoner.

The resolutions passed at the last annual meeting of this Grand Lodge, complaining of the breach of Masonic usage and courtesy in the Lodges of New York and Pennsylvania, in receiving and admitting candidates for Masonry residing under the jurisdiction and within the bounds of this Grand Lodge, were duly signed and sealed, and forwarded to the secretaries of the Grand Lodges of each of those States. For any answer that may have been received, I refer you to our Grand Secretary.

I have received returns of the election of officers from very few Lodges. This omission involves not only a violation of rule, but of obligation. Should not the regulation be either enforced or repealed? Would not the appropriate penalty be a refusal to a seat to the delegates from such Lodges as have not reported the election of their officers?

No other official acts have been performed necessary or proper to be reported, yet the amount of correspondence necessarily incident to the connection existing between the Grand Master and the Subordinate

Lodges, and the brethren generally, has formed no small share of official labor.

At the time when I was clothed with the authority, and invested with the insignia of the office of Grand Master, into which I was then duly installed, after claiming the indulgence and invoking the charity of the brethren for the many shortcomings and errors I should commit during the brief period I should remain in the discharge of its official duties, I had nought to offer in return but my sincere thanks, the prestige of gray hairs, an unwavering attachment to the fundamental principles of Ancient York Masonry, and a firm resolve, as far as in me lay, to protect the same against those modern innovations which threaten to mar its beauties, circumscribe its charities, and destroy its usefulness.

Any change or deviation from prevailing customs or usages will be much more apparent to one who, for a long period, has been absent from the theatre of their exhibition, than to those who daily witness their performance. While the secret mysteries of the Craft, and its ancient landmarks, for the most part, remain undisturbed, yet many alterations and additions have been made in the performance of its rites and ceremonies, and mode of work, since the commencement of the present century, has doubtless been observed by many of the elder brethren.

The reverence and deep veneration in which the ancient Fraternity of Free Masonry is held, not only by its own members, but by the world at large, is derived from its antiquity. No better evidence of the intrinsic worth of any institution could be adduced than its continued existence for so long a period amid the changes and revolutions of civil governments and the prejudices and persecutions it has encountered from its enemies. The proofs of this antiquity should be carefully preserved. The antiquarian of a future age, like the one of the present or the past, in searching through the long vista of departed years for the origin of Free Masonry, must be guided and directed to that period of time when the manners and customs, the usages, and, to some extent the language of the age, corresponded with those which now characterize the institution.

Not only those moral precepts which guide and direct the Mason in the discharge of his duties to God and his neighbor, but the ancient legends, on which the different degrees of the Fraternity are founded, are derived from the pages of that open sacred volume which forms the first great light of Masonry, and which ever remains open on its altars.

The beauty, the grandeur, the solemnity of style, which characterize the volume of inspiration, is not only proof of divine origin, but likewise a safeguard against change or innovation. What modern divine could successfully initiate the sublime eloquence of an Isaiah or the plaintive strains of a Jeremiah, would add one to the catalogue of wise sayings uttered by him who caused to be erected that magnificent temple, so

celebrated in the annals of Masonry, or could rewrite the sermon on the mount, every sentence of which contains a whole volume of modern theology. But the integrity of the text of that sacred volume is still further protected by the anathema of its divine Author, denounced against him who should presume to add to or take an iota from its contents.

The institution of Free Masonry is not shielded from innovation by such safeguards. Although we can recognize the kind care of that Providence which has protected it from its origin to the present day, and although many of us have been taught to believe that its archives have been consecrated, by being made the depository for safe keeping of those manuscripts which form a component part of the sacred volume, yet the only means we possess of preserving the ancient landmarks and secret mysteries of the Fraternity, is a strict and faithful adherence to that oral tradition through which they have been transmitted, through so many centuries, to the present day.

Should not the disapprobation of this Grand Lodge be denounced against that practice which, in unfolding to a candidate the secret mysteries of Free Masonry, substitutes for this tradition the printed manual of some perjured Judas, who has betrayed his trust, and incurred the penalties of his violated obligations.

That public opinion, at the present day, appreciates the worth and excellence of the Masonic Institution, is proven by the many spurious and counterfeit associations which have started into existence within the last few years, into which some of the brethren have been inadvertently drawn, and although, like the thousands which have preceded them, are destined to be of ephemeral duration, yet they have been the fruitful source of disquietude and divisions among those who have assumed their conflicting obligations. While the one extends its sympathy to the worthy of the whole family of man, the other would circumscribe both by creed or birth place. Cannot the fraternal but authoritative voice of this Grand Lodge be heard in a way to correct the evil, recall to its bosom the wandering brother, and restore peace and harmony among alienated brethren?

These suggestions are made without consultation with any of the brethren, from a sense of duty alone, by one who, for more than forty years, has not wavered in his attachment to the fundamental principles of Ancient York Masonry. He asks for them no consideration or action they are not entitled to receive at your hands.

In conclusion, I would take this occasion to express my sincere thanks for the kindness and courtesy I have received in my official intercourse with the brethren during the past year, and to announce my determination not to be a candidate for re-election.

The honors of Grand Master justly belong to him, alone, who can faithfully perform all the arduous and responsible duties of the office.

REPORT OF DEPUTY GRAND MASTER.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, of the State of New Jersey.

In accordance with my duty, I beg leave to report, that during the past year, in my official capacity, I visited St. John's Lodge, No. 1, Newark Lodge, No. 7, Union Lodge, No. 11, Camden Lodge, No. 15, Hiram Lodge, No. 17, Harmony Lodge, No. 23, Northern Lodge, No. 25, Joppa Lodge, No. 29, Varick Lodge, No. 31, Burlington Lodge, No. 32, Eureka Lodge, No. 39, and Paterson Orange Lodge, No. 43, all of which I found in a highly prosperous condition. I have also installed the officers of, and set to work Independence Lodge, No. 42, a warrant for which was issued at our last annual communication: also, by virtue of letters of dispensation, granted by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and by his direction, organized the following Lodges, viz.: Benevolent Lodge, located at Paterson, Central Lodge, located at Mount Holly, Bergen Lodge, located at Bergen, Solomon's Lodge, located at Somerville, and Enterprise Lodge, located at Jersey City, to each of which I would recommend that warrants be issued.

I have also installed the officers elect of Joppa Lodge, No. 29, Camden Lodge, No. 15, and Varick Lodge, No. 31.

I have granted dispensations to the following Lodges to confer the degrees of E. A., F. L, and M. M. at one and the same communication, viz.: Lafayette, No. 27, one; Joppa, No. 29, one; Varick, No. 31, one; St. John's, No. 1, one; and Bergen, U. D., two.

An emergency having arisen in Central Lodge, U. D., on account of the removal out of this jurisdiction, of Bro. C. C. Simms, Worshipful Master, named in the dispensation I granted a dispensation to said Lodge to hold a special election for Worshipful Master, to be named in the warrant, and issued a commission to Past Masters John Rodgers, and Ellwood Conner, of Burlington Lodge, No. 32, to install the Worshipful Master elect.

I congratulate you, my brethren, that the germ of discord, which had been planted within our borders, has been uprooted. I allude to a clandestine body, called Atwood Lodge, located at Hoboken, in this State, the members of which renounce their allegiance to the so called St. John's Grand Lodge, of New York, returned their warrant to the aforesaid body, and were by me healed in Hoboken Lodge, all of whom have since become worthy members of said Lodge.

In this connection permit me to recommend that Bro. Hersee, who had officiated as Worshipful Master of Atwood Lodge, from the time of its organization until its dissolution (a period of over a year), take the rank of Past Master, and be received as a member of this Grand Lodge.

Fraternally yours,

THEODORE R. VARICK, *Dep. G. Master.*

REPORT OF THE SENIOR GRAND WARDEN.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Jersey.

The subscriber, Senior Grand Warden of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, begs leave to report—that he has visited, in his official capacity, Lafayette Lodge, No. 27, Washington, No. 33, Princeton, No. 37, Union, No. 19, Camden, No. 15, Jerusalem, No. 26, and inspected their work, and he is happy to state that he has found them in a very flourishing condition.

He has installed the officers of Lafayette Lodge, No. 27, and Princeton, No. 37.

He regrets that his professional business has not allowed him to better have fulfilled the work imposed upon him.

JOHN H. JANEWAY, *S. G. Warden.*

REPORT OF JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey.

I would most respectfully beg leave to report—that during the recess since the last annual meeting of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, I have visited most of the Subordinate Lodges given in my charge by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, and I am much pleased to report, that I have found them all in a most healthy condition, and improving rapidly in the work of Ancient York Masonry.

I have visited Harmony Lodge, No. 18, of Toms River, and I am happy to say they deserve great credit for their advancement in their work, and the particular attention paid by them in the respectability and fitness of their candidates for initiation and membership; they are adding to their number those that will be a credit to the Fraternity.

I have visited Washington Lodge, No. 9, of Eatontown, and I would report this Lodge to be in a most prosperous condition, as to work, number of members and respectability.

I have visited Mystic Brotherhood Lodge, of No. 21, Red Bank. This Lodge is in a most healthy condition, and bids fair to be one of the best Lodges in the State. She has not added very rapidly to her number, but what she has done will give credit and respectability to the Fraternity. I also installed their officers.

I have visited Brearley Lodge, No. 2, Bridgeton, and must say the unanimity and permanence in their Lodge cannot be surpassed by any. Their anxiety to improve, and their improvement in Masonic work, must eventually add strength and respectability to their Lodge and the Craft generally. I also installed their officers for the ensuing year.

I have also given a visit to Olive Branch Lodge, No. 16, of Freehold. I

would here remark that this Lodge, owing to the removal of a number of its members, and a difficulty which occurred in the Lodge, which is unnecessary here to mention, the Lodge has lain dormant for three or four years; but the anxiety of those wishing to become Masons, and the spirit of Masonry still existing in the bosom of the old remaining members, has led them to proceed, and get their old charter resuscitated and proceed to work, all of which I have had the pleasure to accomplish for them. This Lodge now bids fair to be as good a Lodge as any in the State; they have the material to build on, they have some of the best men in the State proposed for initiation, and they have plenty of good material for the builder's use. Freehold is a place growing up rapidly, and has a great number of enterprising young men in it, and all seeking to become Masons; and I can, therefore, see nothing to hinder this Lodge from being one of the first in the State. They have, also, a splendid room fitted up, which cannot be surpassed by any in the State. I had the pleasure, on the 28th ult., of installing their officers and setting them to work.

I regret much that I have been unable to visit Cape Island Lodge and Tuckerton, but, owing to illness in my family, and the bad state of the weather, I have been unable so to do. I have held a correspondence with Cape Island Lodge, and I find there can be a good and wholesome Lodge sustained. All they want is Masonic instruction; they have the material whereon to build.

Respectfully and fraternally yours,

GEO. FINCH, *J. G. Warden.*

Red Bank, January 12th, 1857.

REPORT OF THE GRAND SECRETARY.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey.

The undersigned, immediately after the annual session, caused the usual number of copies of the proceedings of that session to be printed, and distributed to the several subordinates and members of this Grand Lodge, as also to the several Grand Lodges in correspondence with us in this Union, Canada, England, and France.

Upon inspection of the printed journal of the Grand Lodge of the State of California, in reference to the donation made to that State, to be found upon our journal of 1853, pages 161 and 2, [page 510, of this book], the Grand Secretary reports having received the sum of $56, on the 14th of February, last past, and the action taken by them, through a committee, is the resolutions to be found in the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the present year. They thank us for our kindness manifested toward them, and, inasmuch as the sum sent is not now wanted, they ordered it to be returned, which has not been received by me.

On the 13th of March last, I received the official notification, through

the Secretary of Hiram Lodge, No. 17, that Bro. Jonathan S. Mortimer had been expelled from that Lodge for unmasonic conduct, on the 3d of that month.

On the 10th of April last, I received the official information, through the Secretary of Sylvan Lodge, No. 275, State of New York, and attested by the Grand Secretary, under the seal of the Grand Lodge of New York, the expulsion of Bro. Pinks Goldstein, for fradulently obtaining money, under false pretences, from various Lodges and individual members of the Fraternity.

Also, on the 19th of July last past, I received the official information, through the Secretary of Washington Lodge, No. 9, of this State, of the expulsion of Bro. Jacob Wolcott Morris, on the 14th inst.

On the 3d of September, I received from the Grand Secretary of the State of Pennsylvania, that our communication to that Grand Lodge (see pages 89 and 90, journal of 1856), [page 620-1, of this book], had been received, and, on the 16th of June, was referred to a committee, which up to the date of his letter, had not been acted upon.

The donation of fifty dollars, made some time past, to the Orphan Masonic College of Kentucky, and more particularly to be found in the resolution reported by the Committee on the Grand Master's and other officers' reports, on page 87 of the journal of 1856, [page 617, of this book], I wrote to Bro. Philip Swigert, who, I supposed, was the Grand Secretary, that that sum awaited their draft, whose reply was received, bearing date November 19th, acknowledging the receipt of my letter, as follows:

"Dear Sir and Brother—Yours, of the 13th instant, is to hand. Several years since received the office of Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, in which character you address me being now the Deputy Grand Master.

"In relation to the donation of your Grand Lodge to La Grange College, I am not prepared, nor do I feel authorized to say what will be the action of our Grand Lodge, inasmuch of the objects of our Grand Lodge have not been realized. The college has dwindled down to an ordinary neighborhood school, and the Grand Lodge has abandoned it as a college, and I do not presume your Grand Lodge is expected to pay her donation; yet *injustice* has been done you in reporting the same in the list of doubtful debts. Let the matter rest until the next meeting of our Grand Lodge, which will be next October. In the mean time assure your Grand Lodge at that time the *amend honorable* shall be made.

"Yours fraternally,

"P. Swigert."

For the receipts of moneys received since the last annual communication, I beg leave to refer you to the schedule hereto attached.

Respectfully submitted.

Jos. H. Hough, *G. Secretary.*

January 14th, 1857.

Account of moneys received since last Annual Meeting, and paid the Grand Treasurer.

1856.	For Grand Lodge certificates,						$14 00
Jan. 9,	By cash from	Harmony	Lodge,			No. 23,	23 00
"	"	"	Darcy	"	(warrant),	" 37,	25 00
"	"	"	Tuckerton	"		" 4,	9 50
"	"	"	Rockaway	"		" 20,	22 00
June 2,	"	"	Hightstown	"	(warrant),	" 41,	25 00
Dec. 27,	"	"	"	"	(dues 1856),	" "	12 00
29,	"	"	Newark	"		" 7,	68 00
1857.							
Jan. 7,	"	"	Harmony	"	(1845 and 6),	" 18,	33 25
12,	"	"	Hiram	"		" 17,	54 50
"	"	"	Jerusalem	"		" 26,	13 00
13,	"	"	Mt. Moriah	"		" 28,	19 00
"	"	"	Varick	"		" 31,	48 50
"	"	"	Amwell	"		" 12,	24 50
"	"	"	Burlington	"		" 32,	22 50
"	"	"	Tuckerton	"		" 4,	10 00
"	"	"	Mt. Holly	"		" 14,	15 00
"	"	"	Joppa	"		" 29,	29 00
"	"	"	Camden	"		" 15,	37 00
"	"	"	Eureka	"		" 39,	20 50
"	"	"	Prospect	"		" 24,	12 50
"	"	"	Trenton	"		" 5,	38 00
"	"	"	St. John's	"		" 1,	58 00
"	"	"	Harmony	"		" 23,	27 50
"	"	"	Franklin	"		" 10,	11 50
"	"	"	Washin'ton	"		" 9,	31 50
"	"	"	Bloomfield	"		" 40,	10 00
"	"	"	Darcy	"		" 37,	19 50
"	"	"	Clinton	"	(2 years),	" 8,	7 50
"	"	"	Pat. Orange	"		" 43,	26 00
"	"	"	D. G. M. Varick, for dispensations,				12 00
"	"	"	" Bergen, U. D.,				8 00
"	"	"	Mystic Brotherhood,			" 21,	17 50
"	"	"	Union,			" 11,	37 00
"	"	"	Newark (for certificate),			" 7,	3 00
			Total,				$844 75

The Committee on Credentials reported, verbally, that the several representatives present were correct, except the proxy for Senior Warden of No. 2; he not being of that rank, could not be admitted.

Report accepted, and committee discharged.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the years 5855 and 5856, presented reports for those years; which were ordered to be received, and the reading dispensed with.

The Committee on the Constitution, By-Laws, &c., were not ready to report.

The committee to whom was referred the several reports of the Grand Officers, presented the following report, which was accepted and laid upon the table:

The committee appointed upon the reports of the Grand Officers, recommend that they be received, and that warrants be granted to the Lodges mentioned in the report; and also report in favor of the acknowledgment of the rights and privileges of pastmastership upon Bro. Hersee, of Hoboken, believing the healing to have been thorough, and to have extended to every Mason, and to the grade of every Mason so healed.

(Signed) PETER I. POWLESS,
R. B. CHISWELL,
O. VANDERHOVEN.

The Grand Lodge was called off, for a short space of time, to enable the brethren to make nominations.

Bro. Isaac Van Wagoner, of No. 29, moved to reconsider the vote of the committee on the reports of the Grand Officers; which was agreed to.

He then moved an amendment, that so much as relates to Lodges under dispensation and granting of warrants be adopted; agreed to.

The following Lodges were represented as follows:

Central, No. 44, Joseph K. Hulme, M., George C. Brown, S. W., William H. Irick, J. W.

Benevolent, No. 45, David Neer, M., Allen Knowles, S. W., Samuel W. Goddard, J. W.

Solomon's No. 46, A. E. Donaldson, S. W.

Bergen, No. 47, James W. Low, M.

Enterprise, No. 48, Albert A. Rice, M., Alexander Driver, S. W., Jonathan V. Thruston, J. W.

Olive Branch, No. 16 (resuscitated), Samuel Laird, M.

The list of nominations was read.

The Chair appointed Committee on Secretary's and

Treasurer's Accounts, as follows: Past Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen, of No. 7, and Past Masters George A. Tator, of No. 9, and William M. Babbitt, of No. 11.

The Grand Lodge was called off till 3 o'clock, P. M.

---

3 O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

The Chair appointed the following to hold an election:

Henry R. Cannon, of No. 26, judge; James W. Low, of No. 47, and William Silas Whitehead, of No. 1, tellers; who, after holding an election, reported the following as duly elected for the current year:

Grand Master—Joseph Trimble, of No. 15.
Deputy Grand Master—Isaac Van Wagoner, of No. 29.
Senior Grand Warden—William Silas Whitehead, of No. 1.
Junior Grand Warden—George Finch, of No. 21.
Grand Treasurer—Elias Phillips, of No. 5.
Grand Secretary—Joseph H. Hough, of No. 5.
Deputy Grand Secretary—Crowell Marsh, of No. 27.

The Chair appointed a committee on the several bills presented for payment: Past Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen, of No. 7, Past Masters George A. Tator, of No. 9, and William M. Babbitt, of No. 11.

The Grand Lodge was called off until 8½ o'clock P. M.

8½ O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Past Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen, of No. 7, installed the Grand Officers elect.

The Grand Master made the following appointments:

Senior Grand Deacon—James M. Cassady, of No. 15.
Junior Grand Deacon—Silas A. Thompson, of No. 24.
Grand Chaplain—John L. Lenhart, of No. 7.

Grand Marshal—John Rodgers, No. 32.
Grand Stewards—George A. Tator, of No. 9, Simeon Harrison, of No. 11.
Grand Swordbearer—Sylvester Van Sickel, of No. 5.
Grand Pursuivant—Samuel Lilly, of No. 12.
Grand Tyler—Amos Howell, of No. 5.
Committee on Foreign Correspondence—Joseph H. Hough and David Naar, of No. 5, and Samuel Read, of No. 14.

A petition was presented, signed by Samuel L. Moore and others, of the First Ward of the city of Elizabeth, praying that a warrant be granted them to be organized into a Lodge, to be hailed Essex Lodge.

It was *Ordered*, That the prayer of the petitioners be granted, and the Lodge numbered 49.

Past Deputy Grand Master Theodore R. Varick, of No. 31, moved that so much of the report of the Committee on Grand Officers' Reports as relates to the case of Past Master William Hersee, be taken up; which was agreed to.

It was moved that the recommendation be adopted.

Pending said motion, it was moved, that so much of the Deputy Grand Master's report as relates to the healing of those brothers in Hoboken Lodge, No. 35, be confirmed; agreed to.

On motion, that the recommendation of Deputy Grand Master Varick, relating to the classing of Bro. William Hersee as a Past Master; not agreed to.

It was *Ordered*, That Bro. William Hersee be invited to take a seat in this Grand Lodge.

Called off till 9 o'clock, A. M.

THURSDAY MORNING, 9 O'CLOCK.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

A paper, purporting to be an appeal of Past Senior Grand Warden Jacob W. Morris, late of No. 9, praying for a review of the proceedings in said Lodge against him, was declared out of order.

Bro. Isaac M. Tucker, of No. 1, offered the following:

Resolved, That the appeal of Bro. John Snyder from the action of Union Lodge, No. 11, whereby the said brother was expelled from that Lodge, be referred to a committee of three, to consider and review the whole matter therein complained of, with power to send for persons and papers, and that said committee be instructed to report at the next communication of this Grand Lodge.

Which was agreed to, and the committee appointed, as follows: Henry R. Cannon, of No. 26, Isaac P. Brown, of No. 1, and James J. Terhune, of No. 7.

The Committee on the Exemplification of the Correct Work, whose report was declared to be the special order of this morning, begged further time, and moved that a special communication of the Grand Lodge be held, at the Grand Master's discretion, for the transaction of such business as may come before us.

A motion to amend, to increase the committee, by adding the Grand Officers, not agreed to.

Past Senior Grand Warden John H. Janeway, of No. 27, moved, that as the By-Laws provide for lectures to exemplify the work before the Subordinates, that all the committees on the work be discharged, and the By-Laws put in force.

Bro. James M. Cassady, of No. 15, moved that all substitutes be laid on the table, and the previous question carried; that is, that a special communication be called for exemplification of the work and other purposes; agreed to.

It was *Ordered*, That the report on Constitution be further postponed.

It was *Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to audit the accounts with Past Grand Master Stewart and this Grand Lodge.

Committee—Past Masters William M. Babbitt, of No. 11, Samuel Read, of No. 14, and William S. Whitehead, of No. 1.

The committee, appointed February 9th, to procure clothing and jewels for this Grand Lodge, reported, verbally, that they had incurred a bill for collar and apron for the

Most Worshipful Grand Master, amounting to twenty-five dollars.

It was *Ordered*, That the bill incurred for the Grand Master's clothing by the committee, amounting to twenty-five dollars, be paid.

And further *Ordered*, That said committee's acts be legalized.

It was *Ordered*, That the salary of the Grand Secretary for the coming year be four hundred dollars.

It was moved that the vote on the memorial on behalf of Bro. John Snyder, late of No. 11, be reconsidered; not agreed to.

Bro. Past Grand Master Daniel B. Bruen presented a bill, stating that Bloomfield Lodge (new), No. 40, when they surrendered some years ago, sent their clothing and jewels to the Grand Lodge, which cannot now be found; they therefore ask the payment of said bill, amounting to ninety dollars.

It was moved that the sum of forty dollars be appropriated in lieu thereof.

It was *Ordered*, as a substitute, That the Grand Secretary make search for their property, and, if found, restore it to them, and to report at the next meeting.

It was *Ordered*, That a committee be appointed to procure suitable clothing and jewels for this Grand Lodge.

Committee—Past Masters Joseph H. Hough, of No. 5, John R. Chapin, of No. 27, and James M. Cassady, of No. 15.

Past Master James M. Cassady, of No. 15, offered the following, which was agreed to:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be directed to issue a certificate of dimit to Bro. Joseph Pilkington, of Eagle Lodge, formerly of Hoboken, N. J. (said Lodge having surrendered the dispensation under which they worked), provided he shall be clear of the books of said Eagle Lodge.

Past Deputy Grand Master Samuel Read, of No. 14, presented the following:

"Can a late member of a demised Lodge be admitted to membership into a new Lodge, when the demised Lodge be resuscitated and at work, without permission of said Lodge?"

The Most Worshipful Grand Master decided as follows:

"A member of a demised Lodge may be admitted to membership in a working Lodge while the Lodge to which he belonged remains dormant, provided he has complied with the regulation of the Grand Lodge in such case made and provided. But he cannot be received in membership with another working Lodge after the resuscitation of the dormant Lodge, unless he obtains a regular dimit from said Lodge."

It was *Ordered*, That the special order of this afternoon be the report of the Committee on Constitution, By-Laws, &c.

It was *Ordered*, That an appropriation of fifty dollars for fifty copies of "Morris' Code of Masonic Law," one for each of the masters of the several Subordinate Lodges.

It was *Ordered*, That, in addition to the above, that one copy be furnished for each Grand Officer of this Grand Lodge.

The Committee on Bills presented the following, which were severally ordered paid:

No. 1.	Theodore R. Varick, Deputy Grand Master,	$32 85
" 2.	Elias Phillips, Grand Treasurer	3 50
" 3.	Daniel Babbitt, Most Worshipful Grand Master	22 00
" 4.	William Wilson, for his expenses to Jersey City	6 00
" 5.	J. H. Hough, G. Secretary, salary and incidental expenses,	235 58
" "	Counterfeit note	5 00
" 6.	Phillips & Boswell, (printing)	11 00
" 7.	Joseph Trimble	6 00
" 8.	James M. Cassady	12 00
" 9.	Union Lodge, No. 19, for tyling Grand Lodge	3 00
" 10.	George Finch, Junior Grand Warden	46 00
" 11.	David Clark (stationery, minute book, &c.)	24 20
" 12.	J. H. Janeway, Senior Grand Warden	13 75
" 13.	John R. Chapin, Deputy Grand Secretary	12 75
" 14.	Amos Howell, Grand Tyler	9 00
	Total	$442 63

The Grand Master made the following appointments for the supervision over the several subordinates, viz.:

Grand Master—No's 5, 12, 14, 15, 28, 32, 37, 38, and 44.

Deputy Grand Master—No's 8, 13, 17, 19, 23, 24, 29, 31, 31, 43, 45, 47, and 48.

Senior Grand Warden—No's 1, 3, 7, 10, 11, 20, 22, 25, 26, 27, 33, 34, 36, 39, 40, and 46.

Junior Grand Warden—No's 2, 9, 11, 16, 18, 21, 30, and 41.

It was *Ordered*, That an appropriation of ten dollars be made to the Grand Chaplain for his attendance on this Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge called off till half past two o'clock, P. M.

2½ O'CLOCK P. M.

The Grand Lodge was called to labor.

Past Senior Grand Warden John H. Janeway, of No. 27, offered the following:

Be it Resolved, By this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, that the thanks of the same be given to Past Grand Master Daniel Babbitt; and further moved, that this Grand Lodge present him with a Past Grand Master's jewel.

And it was further moved, that the sum of fifty dollars be appropriated, in lieu thereof.

After some debate, the subject was laid on the table, to take up the special order.

The Committee on the Constitution, By-Laws, &c., submitted the printed sheets of their draft, and read a portion without amendment.

It was *Ordered*, That the committee be discharged, with the thanks of this Grand Lodge.

It was *Ordered*, That the consideration of the report of Committee on Constitution, By-Laws, &c., be referred to the Emergent Session, and that the Grand Secretary be requested to furnish each Subordinate Lodge with two copies of such report.

The Grand Secretary on behalf of Central Lodge, No. 44, asked for the order of this Grand Lodge to permit them to have the names of the present elective officers of said Lodge inserted in their warrant.

It was *Ordered*, That the request be not granted.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, as relates to the position of the "Grand Lodge of Canada," was read.

It was *Ordered*, That the subject be referred to a special committee.

Committee—Past Masters John R. Chapin, of No. 27, David Naar, of No. 5, and William Wilson, of No. 12.

It was *Ordered*, That the Grand Master be added to said committee.

It was *Ordered*, That the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the past year be printed as an appendix to this journal.

Past Senior Grand Warded John H. Janeway, of No. 27, offered the following, which was adopted:

Be it Resolved, That the thanks of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge be tendered to Past Grand Master Daniel Babbitt.

Bro. Rees P. Francis presented a memorial, complaining that Hoboken Lodge, No. 35, refused to receive his dues, and also to receive him as a member.

On motion of Bro. Henry R. Cannon, of No. 26, it was *Ordered*, That Bro. Francis have leave to withdraw his memorial, and Hoboken Lodge be requested to give him a dimit in due and legal form.

No further business offering, on motion, the reading of the minutes was dispensed with, and the Grand Secretary ordered to print them as usual.

The Grand Lodge closed in harmony and due form, to meet again at the call of the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

Trenton, January 15th, 5857.

JOS. H. HOUGH, *G. Secretary.*

Abstract of Lodge Returns, &c., and account of moneys received by Grand Secretary.

LODGES.	No.	New members.	Old members.	Total members.	Warrant fees.	Certificates.	Dispensations.	Dues.	Total.
St. John's	1	2	114	116	.....	.....	$8 00	$58 00	$66 00
Brearley	2	6	50	56	.....	$2 00	.....	.....	2 00
Cincinnati	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tuckerton	4	3	17	20	.....	.....	.....	10 00	10 00
Trenton	5	11	65	76	.....	.....	.....	38 00	38 00
Lebanon	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Newark	7	3	130	133	.....	13 00	4 00	68 00	85 00
Clinton	8	1	7	8	.....	.....	.....	7 50	7 50
Washington	9	4	59	63	.....	.....	.....	31 50	31 50
Franklin	10	3	20	23	.....	.....	.....	11 50	11 50
Union (Orange)	11	11	63	74	.....	.....	.....	37 00	37 00
Amwell	12	4	45	49	.....	.....	.....	24 50	24 50
Warren	13	7	47	54	.....	1 00	.....	27 00	28 00
Mount Holly	14	.....	51	51	.....	.....	.....	25 50	25 50
Camden	15	4	70	74	.....	.....	.....	37 00	37 00
Olive Branch	16	.....	13	13	.....	.....	.....	6 50	6 50
Hiram	17	19	90	109	.....	.....	.....	54 50	54 50
Harmony	18	1	36	37	.....	.....	.....	33 25	33 25
Union (N. B.)	19	12	31	43	.....	.....	.....	22 00	22 00
Rockaway	20	7	33	40	.....	1 00	4 00	30 00	35 00
Mystic Brotherhood	21	12	21	33	.....	.....	.....	17 50	17 50
Diogenes	22	4	23	27	.....	.....	.....	13 50	13 50
Harmony	23	11	44	55	.....	.....	.....	27 50	27 50
Prospect	24	4	21	25	.....	.....	.....	12 50	12 50
Northern	25	15	41	56	.....	.....	.....	28 00	28 00
Jerusalem	26	3	23	26	.....	.....	.....	13 00	13 00
Lafayette	27	7	25	32	.....	.....	.....	16 00	16 00
Mount Moriah	28	8	30	38	.....	.....	.....	19 00	19 00
Joppa	29	13	32	45	.....	1 00	4 00	29 00	34 00
Cape Island	30	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Varick	31	22	60	82	.....	.....	4 00	48 50	52 50
Burlington	32	.....	45	45	.....	.....	.....	22 50	22 50
Washington	33	9	26	37	.....	.....	4 00	25 50	29 50
Stewart	34	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Hoboken	35	23	38	61	.....	1 00	.....	30 50	31 50
Mansfield	36	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	13 50	13 50
Darcy	37	.....	31	31	.....	.....	.....	19 50	19 50
Princeton	38	7	11	18	.....	.....	.....	9 00	9 00
Eureka	39	34	7	41	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bloomfield	40	2	18	20	.....	.....	.....	10 00	10 00
Hightstown	41	13	11	24	.....	.....	.....	12 00	12 00
Independence	42	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Paterson Orange	43	35	15	50	.....	1 00	.....	26 00	27 00
Central	44	.....	21	21	$25 00	.....	.....	.....	25 00
Benevolent	45	.....	26	26	25 00	.....	.....	.....	25 00
Solomon's	46	.....	9	9	25 00	.....	.....	4 50	29 50
Bergen	47	.....	14	14	25 00	1 00	8 00	.....	34 50
Enterprise	48	.....	19	19	25 00	.....	.....	.....	25 00
Essex	49	.....	9	8	25 00	.....	.....	.....	25 00
		320	1562	1882	$150 00	$21 00	$36 00	$919 25	$1126 25

APPENDIX.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE, A. L. 5856.

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence for the past year, respectfully report, that we have received the printed proceedings, &c., of the several Grand Lodges in correspondence with us, as follows:

States.	Date of meeting.	When received.
1. Pro. G. L. Canada W.,	May 10 and 11, 1855.	
2. District of Columbia,	" 1, "	Feb. 1, 1856.
3. Virginia (Chapter),	Dec. 13, "	" 14, "
4. North Carolina,	" 3, "	" 15, "
5. New York,	Feb. 19, 1856.	
6. Virginia,	Dec. 10, 1855,	" 22, "
7. Massachusetts,	March 14 to Dec. 27, 1855,	" 27, "
8. Rhode Island,	June 24, 1852, to June 25, 1855,	" " "
9. Alabama,	Dec. 3, 1855.	March 6, 1856.
10. South Carolina,	Jan. 9 to Dec. 27, 1855,	" 20, "
11. Vermont,	" 9, 1856.	" 24, "
12. N.Y. (Holland L.No.8)		April 2, "
13. Texas,	Jan. 21, 1856,	" 15, "
14. Arkansas,	Nov. 6, 1855,	" 26, "
15. Delaware,	June 27, "	" 24, "
16. Massachusetts,	Sept. 10, 1856,	Oct. 17, "
17. Mississippi (Chapter),	Jan. 19, "	May 5, "
18. Florida,	" 14, "	" 13, "
19. Pennsylvania,	Dec. 3, 1855,	July 10, "
20. California,	May 6, 1856,	" 14, "
21. Missouri,	" 26, "	" 28, "
22. Kansas,	March 17, 1856.	Aug. 23, "
23. Report of Committee,		Sept. 2, "
24. Maine,	May 1, 1856,	" " "
25. Pennsylvania (Letter),	Aug. 22, "	" 13, "
26. Indiana,	May 26, "	" 20, "
27. New York,	June 3, "	Oct. 2, "
28. Mississippi,	Jan. 21, "	
29. Maryland,	Nov. 19, 20, and 21, 1855.	
30. Minnesota,	Jan. 7, 1856.	
31. Georgia,	Oct. 30, 1855.	

States.	Date of meeting.	When received.
32. California (Circular address).		
33. Louisiana,	Feb. 11, 1856.	
34. N. Y. (Rep. of Com.),	June 6, "	
35. California.		
36. District of Columbia (Constitution, &c.)		
37 and 8. The Accacia,	March and July, 1856.	
39. Iowa,	June 3, 1856.	
40. New Hampshire,	" 10, "	Nov. 19, 1856.
41. Canada,	Nov. 10, 1855.	
42. Michigan,	Jan. 9, 1856,	June 10, "
43. Connecticut,	May 14 and 15, 1856,	Dec. 27, "
44. Rhode Island,	Year ending June 24, 1856,	" 31, "

It would appear a task, judging from the voluminous matter we have to look through, to cull out something that will be beneficial, as well as a knowledge of how our sister Grand Lodges are progressing in the great work that we have set ourselves to work out for the benefit of one another.

The Society of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons never were in as prosperous condition, nor the base of the superstructure so well secured on its foundation as at the present, nor in more sincere and affectionate breasts who have it in their keeping than the present; and from the experience of the past, let us learn wisdom for the future.

Several of the Grand Lodge proceedings that we have had the pleasure, and also profit, of perusing, are more like books in size. The intelligence spread over their pages shows conclusively that able and well-informed minds have contributed to their columns their thoughts and experience for the good of the whole. Judging, likewise, by the harmony and good feeling that pervade the whole Union (with one exception, and that, we feel confident, will be amicably arranged by themselves,) we should congratulate ourselves that there is nothing to mar the pleasure we enjoy in our annual communications.

The stand taken by the so-called Grand Lodge of Canada, in their declaration of independence, ought to call for our warmest sympathies in their behalf, for "taxation without representation" seems to be too servile, and not in accordance with the teachings of our Constitution, adopted and put forth more than one hundred years since.

We have endeavored to extract only such as will give you information and profit, by the wisdom and experience of the others, and not draw anything more than we could well avoid, and would be warranted in doing, to give the subject full, clear, and explicit meaning.

Canada.—The printed circular before us purports to be the proceedings of several meetings, the first whereof was held at the city of London, May 10th and 11th, 1855, of which notice was given "that at the next communication of this Grand Lodge, he (Bro. W. M. Wilson) will move that a

petition be forwarded to the Grand Lodge of England, praying that Right Worshipful Body to divide Upper Canada into three Masonic divisions, establishing a Grand Lodge in each division; and also, that at the said meeting a delegate be appointed to proceed to England for the purpose of attending to such matters as may be entrusted to him by this Grand Lodge."

It was further resolved, that an emergent meeting be called in July, to take into consideration that proposition.

The Grand Lodge was again called; but it does not appear that Bro. Wilson's motion was acted upon.

A motion was made and lost, "that a meeting of delegates from all the Lodges in the province, under all jurisdictions, be invited to meet at an early day, to take the necessary steps for communicating with the Grand Lodges of Great Britain and Ireland, for the purpose of forming an independent Grand Lodge."

At the meeting the next day, a resolution was passed, "that the Provincial Grand Secretary do forthwith write to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of England, that it is the earnest and respectful desire of this Provincial Grand Lodge that an answer be returned to the prayer of the petition of this Provincial Grand Lodge, sent to the Grand Master on the 1st of December, 1853; which answer, if returned forthwith, will tend to allay that intense excitement already too prevalent in this Provincial Grand Lodge."

At a subsequent meeting, "Bro. Henry Crouse, Senior Warden of Norfolk Lodge, Simcoe, gave notice that if our petition for a Canadian Grand Lodge does not meet with a favorable reception at the Grand Lodge of England, Norfolk Lodge will again bring the subject up, to be disposed of in such manner as may be deemed proper."

Bro. R. H. Townend, of London, was appointed their special agent, and was requested to use his best endeavors to obtain an answer to their petition, and "invested with full powers to act in the matter."

At the half yearly meeting held October 23d, 1855, a letter was read from the Grand Master of the State of New York to the "D. D. Grand Master, residing in Buffalo, in reply to an application made by certain Masons in Canada (who had formed a convention at Hamilton, on the 10th instant, for the purpose of forming an Independent Grand Lodge for Canada) for assistance from certain Grand or Past Grand Officers in said State of New York, in installing the officers of said Canadian Grand Lodge, of which letter the following is a copy:

"Office of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York.

"New York, October 17th, 1855.

"Dear Brother—Your esteemed favor of the 15th instant is just to hand, submitting the inquiry, whether it would be proper for the Most

Worshipful Bro. Randall to install the Grand Officers of the newly formed Grand Lodge of Canada, which has been organized without the consent of their supreme head, the Grand Lodge of England, and submitting whether there would not be utility in promptly extending to them the hand of encouragement, and a full recognition of their Grand Lodge, as a legitimate organization. This is not your language but embraces your ideas, as I understand them.

"I have telegraphed Most Worshipful Bro. Randall that it would be improper for him to do so, if by the act our Grand Lodge will be either directly or indirectly identified as a party to this contemplated movement of our Canadian brethren, of violently severing their connection with the author of their Masonic existence, and that, too, without the express consent of their own Provincial Grand Lodge.

"I have not yet seen our official brethren who are in the city, and may not do so in time to give you their views (with this) on the subject, but will do so the first opportunity that offers.

"The subject involves too grave and important a principle for us hastily to consider and determine it, otherwise than to withhold our participation in the proposed organization. Our Grand Lodge, above all others, should not for a moment countenance rebellion, or, if you prefer a modified phrase, a severance by *violence* from a Grand Lodge to which they are bound by the most solemn obligations. We are appealing year after year to our sister Grand Lodges to assist us in putting down rebellion in our own jurisdiction. To this end, we have virtually appealed to the Grand Lodge of England for its countenance and support in maintaining us in our lawful position against heresy and schism, and now, under these circumstances, even if there was no vital principle involved, for us to give encouragement to rebellion in her jurisdiction, would be the very height of ingratitude, and would display a most unenviable disposition, in the total want of moral principle.

"We, however, concur fully that the separation would be attended with the most favorable advantages to them in every particular, both as Lodges and as individuals, and that they should have a separate and distinct organization—a Grand Lodge of their own, independent of a Grand Lodge located in a foreign land, which, from its inaccessibility, cannot afford readily the facilities necessary for a healthful existence in its subordinates.

"Entertaining these views, we would most cheerfully, were it not too late, proffer our services as mediator, to the full power of our influence and persuasions, that the desire of our Canadian brethren may be gratified in this particular; but beyond this intercession we cannot go.

"Inasmuch as the Grand Lodges of Ireland and Scotland have given their consent to their subordinates in Canada to institute a Grand Lodge independent of them, we will most readily render to them every assist-

ance in our power in giving them a place among the independent Grand Lodges of America. We can greet such with our most hearty congratulations, and receive them with open arms to our warmest sympathies and brotherly affections.

"I sincerely hope our estimable and beloved brethren of Canada, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England, will not persist in their present course, and that they will never *tire* in their endeavors to obtain the consent of their mother Grand Lodge to their independence, until they have exhausted fully and completely the means they possess of accomplishing the end. The foregoing is written predicated upon the present condition of affairs; circumstances may assume a different phase by June next, but until they do so, it will be very impolitic for us to hazard an adventure so unpropitious and baneful in its tendencies.

"Yours fraternally, and with the highest regard,

"JOSEPH D. EVANS, *Grand Master.*

"Right Worshipful ELLICOTT EVANS, D. D. G. Master, Buffalo.

A manuscript communication has been received from that so called Grand Lodge, which fully sets forth their case, and, for the information of the Fraternity, we here insert it entire:

"*To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, the Grand Officers, and Brethren of the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of the State of New Jersey.*

"We, the Grand Master, Officers, and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, with sincere respect and fraternal regard, send greeting.

"The Free Masons of Canada, to the number of forty-one Lodges, having united in the establishment of a Grand Lodge of Canada, it is our pleasing duty to lay before you an explanation of the circumstances which dictated, and the course we pursued in taking, a step which, while it determines the rule of the Grand Lodge of Great Britain over us, as Lodges, we confidently believe will not sever, and we earnestly trust will not weaken, that holy bond of brotherhood so long existing between us as Masons; and we feel assured that the purity of the motives by which we were actuated and the justness of our cause will insure the Grand Lodge of Canada a cordial reception by your august body.

"The absence in this Province of that progress in our Masonic art which has invariably attended the existence of duly constituted Lodges in every other country, had long been a source of unfeigned sorrow to all zealous Canadian Free Masons, who observed, with deep regret, that the advancement of the Fraternity was by no means commensurate with the rapid improvement which marked every other branch of the social and political economy of this noble Province.

"The principle influences which retarded the progress of Masonry were attributed to the following alleged grievances suffered by the Fraternity in Canada:

"The want of harmony, in action and in working, resulting from Lodges hailing from the Grand Lodges of different countries, perpetuating local and national feelings and prejudices, and conflicting interests, and consequent estrangement of affection amongst the brethren of a Craft that knows no country and is confined to no race.

"The manifest injustice of Lodges in this Province being required, out of their limited means, to contribute to the accumulated funds of the Grand Lodge of Great Britain, in addition to having to support three Provincial Grand Lodges; and, especially, as the great proportion of claims for Masonic assistance are made by brethren emigrating from the mother country, whilst instances of Masons leaving this for Great Britain in a position to require such relief are rare, if they ever occur at all. The Grand Lodges of Great Britain thus doubly tax the Fraternity here by transferring to these shores numberless claimants for Masonic benevolence, at the same time that they are receiving from us a portion of our means of affording that assistance.

"The inconvenience arising from the lengthened periods that must elapse, in consequence of the distance between us and the Grand Lodge of Great Britain, before we can receive replies to our communications, sanction to our proceedings, warrants, certificates of membership, &c., even in cases of emergency, and instances have often occurred of brethren being deprived of the privileges of the Craft, by being compelled to leave for foreign countries before the arrival of their certificates, for which, it must be borne in mind, they had paid previously to their initiation.

"And lastly, the appointment of our Provincial Grand Masters by the Grand Master of England, who, at a distance of near 4000 miles, may reasonably be expected to be practically ignorant of the social position and requirement of the Craft in Canada; and, inasmuch as the Provincial Grand Officers are nominated by the Provincial Grand Masters, the efficiency or inefficiency of the administration of our affairs depends entirely upon the eligible or ineligible selection of Provincial Grand Masters made for us by the Grand Master of England; and this selection is made without reference to the opinions of the Fraternity in Canada, although they would naturally be the best informed on the subject, and most deeply interested in the result.

"The Provincial Grand Lodges thus constituted are placed in the equivocal position of being irresponsible to and independent of the Craft in Canada, whilst experience has shown those Lodges to be unable to secure from the Grand Lodge of England the attention and respect due to their position as Provincial Grand Lodges.

"The foregoing sentiments were participated in by the whole of the Masonic Fraternity, with scarcely an individual exception; nor were such feelings and conviction of recent formation, the necessity of establishing a Canadian Grand Lodge having, for many years, occupied the

serious consideration of the brethren; but hailing as they did from the different Grand Lodges, and distributed as they were over a Province extending in length 1600 miles, and in breadth averaging over 220 miles, being three times as large as Great Britain and Ireland, the means of communication, too, being very imperfect, they had but few opportunities of meeting together, and much time, therefore, elapsed before any action was taken in the matter.

"The first important step occurred at a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Upper Canada, held in October, A. L. 5852, when, after expressing the highest respect and esteem for their parent Grand Lodge of England, a resolution was unanimously passed to the effect, that it is absolutely necessary for the welfare of Masonry in the Province, that an independent Grand Lodge should be established, having full powers to control the working and operations of the Craft in this quarter of the globe, and that all funds accruing from the same should be retained by the said Grand Lodge to meet the urgent necessities of the Craft in the Province.

"In May, A. L 5853, the same Grand Body (the Provincial Grand Lodge of Upper Canada) adopted and forwarded to the Grand Lodge of England, which, after briefly narrating the Masonic history of Western Canada, from the year 5792, and stating that the advancement of Masonry had been of a less cheering nature than the progress of Canada in population, intelligence, and wealth, had warranted them in anticipating, and that their funds were drained by the constant demands from indigent brethren, emigrating from Great Britain and Ireland, until they were unable to carry out the great charitable objects of the institution, prayed that they might be allowed to retain all fees arising from the working of the Craft, and also that the various Lodges under their jurisdiction might be permitted to elect their own Provincial Grand Master, at the same time expressing the belief that if the prayer of their petition was granted, and the Grand Lodge of England would exert its influence to induce the other Grand Lodges of Great Britain not to issue any more warrants to Lodges in Canada, that ere long the whole Craft in the Province would be united in one harmonious body.

"These petitions and resolutions having elicited no reply from the Grand Lodge of England, resolutions were passed, at subsequent meetings of the Provincial Grand Lodge, directing that application be made to the Grand Lodge of England, first through the Grand Secretary, the regular channel of communication, and afterwards through the Grand Registrar, respectfully calling attention to the petitions, and begging that they might be favored with consideration and some reply.

"These applications appear to have been alike unavailing in procuring from the Grand Lodge of England any consideration of the claims of the Masons of Canada, for at a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge, on

the 19th of July last, it was officially announced that no reply had been received from the Grand Lodge of England to any of these communications.

"Finding that the interests of the Craft in the Province were suffering with increased severity from the causes of which they had complained; feeling deeply the uncourteous neglect the petitions and correspondence of the Provincial Grand Lodge had experienced from the officers of the Grand Lodge of England, and believing the Provincial Grand Lodge to be incapable of obtaining those concessions which the position of the Craft rendered indispensable, it was determined to call a meeting of delegates from all Canadian Lodges, to be held in the city of Hamilton, on the 10th of October, to consider the expediency of establishing a Grand Lodge of Canada.

"In conformity with that resolution, and in pursuance of a summons ssued to all the Lodges in Canada, the representatives of forty-one Lodges, hailing from the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, and Scotland, assembled at the Masonic Hall, in the city of Hamilton, on the 10th of October, A. L. 5855.

"V. W. Brother, the Rev. Dr. F. J. Lundy, was called upon to officiate as Chaplain during the session of the convention.

"The convention having been inaugurated by solemn prayer—

"V. W. Brother C. McGill, mayor of the city of Hamilton, was called upon to preside, and V. W. Brother T. B. Harris was requested to act as Secretary.

"On the recommendation of a committee, appointed for the purpose, rules and regulations were adopted for the government of the convention.

"The objects for which the convention was called were introduced with explanatory observations by the chairman, who invited the brethren present to express their views on the subject before the meeting freely and at length.

"The convention was addressed by many of the brethren, and the several points of alleged grievance were very fully considered and discussed.

"In the course of the debate it was urged, that, however willing the Grand Lodge of England might be to concede all the points embraced in the petitions of the Provincial Grand Lodge, the serious inconvenience arising from the distance (near 4000 miles) between Great Britain and this Province could not thus be avoided, whilst the establishment of a Grand Lodge of Canada, in addition to remedying that inconvenience, would unite as one family the Fraternity of the Province, identify the interests, and assimilate the working of the various Lodges, at present belonging to the three distinct jurisdictions, and establish harmony throughout the Craft.

"It was further urged, that having a Grand Lodge in the Province would afford the Lodges a convenience of communication, which would greatly facilitate the business of the Craft, that the amount of dues that would be saved by having but one Grand Lodge to support, would materially increase their benevolent resources, and that the Grand Lodge, with officers annually elective by the Masons of Canada, would secure due attention to the interests of the Fraternity, and elevate Free Masonry in Canada to a position of prosperity, influence, and utility, under any other circumstances far beyond its capabilities.

"It was also urged, that among the numerous and intelligent body of Masons in the Province, the requisite talent and devotion to the welfare of the Craft may at all times be found to conduct an efficient administration of the affairs of Free Masonry in Canada, and that the necessities of the Fraternity require that they should assume a position of self-government.

"The feeling of the convention being manifestly so strongly in favor of the establishment of an independent Grand Lodge, a committee, composed of those brethren whose Masonic knowledge and general ability had distinguished them as the best qualified for the faithful and efficient performance of so important a duty, was appointed to investigate all available Masonic authorities for precedents applicable to the peculiar circumstances of the case. The result of their researches was a recommendation for the immediate formation of a Grand Lodge of Canada. This recommendation, with the full and explanatory report of the committee, having received from the brethren that calm and grave consideration which the serious importance of the subject demanded, it was felt that, however painful it might be to them thus to sever the link which had so long bound them to their parent Grand Lodges of Great Britain, and sincerely as they felt, and readily acknowledged the duty they owed to those parent Grand Lodges, they felt that they owed a still higher duty to Free Masonry, whose best interests were at stake, and whose prosperous existence in the province imperatively required that immediate separation.

"It was therefore solemnly *Resolved*, That in order to apply a remedy to these evils, to form perfect fraternal union and harmony, establish order, insure tranquillity, provide for and promote the general welfare of the Craft, and secure to the Fraternity of Canada all the blessings of Masonic privileges, it is expedient, right and our bounden duty to form a Grand Lodge of Canada.

"It was then, on motion, unanimously *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada be and is hereby formed upon the Ancient Charges and Constitution of Masonry.

"A committee was then appointed to prepare rules and regulations for the government of the Grand Lodge of Canada; and a temporary code having been submitted and approved, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the

election of Grand Master and elective Grand Officers, and the following brethren were duly elected and appointed: M. W. Bro. William Mercer Wilson, G. M.; R. W. Bro. A. Barnard, D. G. M.; R. W. Bro. W. B. Simpson, D. D. G. M., M. D.; R. W. Bro. W. Eaden, D. D. G. M., E. D.; R. W. Bro. Richard Bull, Sen. G. W.; R. W. Bro. James Daniel, Jun. G. W.; R. W. Bro. Rev. Dr. Lundy, G. Chaplain; R. W. Bro. William Bellhouse, G. Treasurer; R. W. Bro. T. B. Harris, G. Secretary; V. W. Bro. Rev. G. Scott, Ass't G. Chaplain; V. W. Bro. George L. Allen, Sen. G. D.; Bro. Thomas Perkins, Jun. G. D.; Bro. J. H. Isaacson, A. G. Secretary; Bro. Thomas Duggan, G. S. of Works; Bro. J. Osborne, G. D. of Ceremonies; V. W. Bro. G. E. Tenwick, A. G. D. of C.; Bro. J. W. Haldimand, G. S. B.; Bro. William Thomas, G. Organist; Bro. G. W. Powell, G. Pursuivant; Bro. J. Morrison, G. Tyler; V. W. Bro. J. R. Holden and Bro. J. C. Butler, G. Stewards.

"Committees were appointed to conduct the general business of the Grand Lodge, and the convention adjourned with solemn prayer, its deliberations having occupied three days.

"The requisite arrangements having previously been made on the 2d of November, the Grand Lodge was duly consecrated, and the Grand Master elect regularly installed in due and ancient form, by the Most Worshipful the Honorable H. T. Backus, Past Grand Master of the Most Worshipful the Grand Lodge of the State of Michigan, assisted by other brethren of eminence and distinction in the Craft.

"The Grand Lodge of Canada was thus regularly formed and inaugurated in the name of the Great Architect of the Universe, in conformity with the custom which has prevailed in the establishment of Grand Lodges; and we confidently believe that the circumstances which called it into existence were as much stronger, as the number of Lodges by which it was formed was greater than had ever before combined for the creation of a new Grand Lodge. From the time when the four Lodges of London renounced their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of York, and formed themselves into an independent Grand Lodge, up to the present period, the greatest number of Lodges on record ever associated to erect a new Grand Lodge was seventeen, whilst forty-one Lodges, and holding warrants, too, from three different jurisdictions, were harmoniously united in the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

"We have now stated, as briefly as their importance would admit, the whole of the circumstances connected with the formation of the Grand Lodge of Canada, and submit them, with all due respect, to your august body; and having been entrusted with the sacred duty of directing the affairs of the Craft in this Province, and of representing them and advocating their interests throughout the Universe; and having solemnly undertaken that charge, and to disseminate the grand principles of our Ancient and Honorable Fraternity, and promote, to the utmost extent of

our ability, the general prosperity of the Craft, it is our earnest desire and intention to follow and maintain, pure and unsullied, the ancient landmarks, laws and traditions of the Craft.

"Engaged in one common cause, the good of our fellow men, by promoting the interest of our time honored institution, and it being our sincere desire to establish and perpetuate an intimate alliance with your Grand Lodge, we extend to you, in the name of our Divine Art, the right hand of brotherhood, and confidently claim from you a reciprocation of our fraternal regard.

"Signed on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

"WM. M. WILSON, *G. Master.*

"THOS. BIRD HARRIS, *Grand Secretary.*

"Hamilton, (C. W.) November 10th, A. L. 5855."

The remaining portion of said "Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West" issue a counter circular, in accordance with a resolution passed directing their Grand Secretary to publish a statement of the facts of the whole matter.

They allege that "the number of Lodges belonging to this Provincial Grand Lodge, at the time the convention met, (October 10th) was fifty, since which time only seven have given official information of their affiliation with the new body; so that at the present time there are forty-three of the original number still true to their allegiance, to which may be added three new Lodges under dispensation, making the present number forty-six."

The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, after having the whole matter reviewed by their committee, resolve, that they feel compelled to refuse the recognition, and protest against their continuance, and strictly forbidding all their individual members holding Masonic intercourse with said Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge of Iowa had this subject brought before them by the Grand Master, recommending that they acknowledge the legitimacy of that Grand Lodge; and the committee to whom was referred his address, concurred in it, and the Grand Lodge *unanimously* acknowledged their "legitimacy, and recommend that a full fraternal intercourse and friendship be extended to them."

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence of Louisiana say: "Taking all that is stated in the Canada document as strictly correct (as we fully believe is the case), we think the organization of the Grand Lodge of Canada right and proper, and that this Grand Lodge ought at once to tender to her the right hand of fellowship."

We cannot find therein that any action was taken on the above recommendation.

The Grand Lodge of New Hampshire "deems it proper and Masonic to refrain from any expression of opinion on the subject, and that no recognition of, or intercourse with, the said Grand Lodge of Canada" be held.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence of California evidently had not the circular from the "Grand Lodge of Canada," or they would have promptly recommended their legitimacy, judging by the following, which we take from their report:

"However much we may sympathize with the condition of our brethren in Canada, occupying, as they do, Masonically, precisely the same position that the people of the American Provinces did politically before the Revolution—that of being taxed without being represented, it is impossible to avoid commending the conduct of the Grand Master of New York in this case. Though we think the Canadian Lodges have borne almost as much delay in the consideration of their repeated petitions, as even Masonic patience is capable of enduring, and would not be much to blame if they at last declared their independence, after having exhausted every effort of supplication without any notice of their entreaties, we do not think that any American Grand Lodge should even seem to abet the revolution, but, if the time must come, look to the brethren in Canada to accomplish their own deliverance. Least of all would it have become the Grand Lodge of New York to lend its aid to any rebellion against lawful authority, and thus, though our sympathies are certainly with our brethren "across the river," we congratulate the Grand Lodge of New York upon the wise and Masonic action of their Grand Master in this case."

Since the above was received, we have the journal of their annual meeting, which was held May 6th, 1856, wherein the report of the special committee on that subject was received and adopted. We here insert only a portion, to show the conclusion the committee arrived at:

"Yet the statements before us, being purely *ex parte*, are not regarded by your committee as a sufficient ground for definite action at the present time on the part of this Grand Lodge.

"Thus, while we extend to our aggrieved brethren in Canada all the sympathy which taxation without representation, inconvenience without recompense, and petitions treated with coldness and neglect, are calculated to excite; while we would extend to them the hand of fraternal affection, and desire to be regarded as their true Masonic brethren and co-workers; while we will ever be ready to come to their assistance in the great struggle of mind with mind in the discussion of those important questions which can only be settled by such a course; and while we would fondly hope for the time speedily to arrive when their brightest hopes and anticipations will be realized, we are compelled to defer a formal recognition of the body thus created, until future developments shall make that duty more plain and imperative.

"Although compelled, with painful reluctance, to adopt this course, we are cheered with the sincere hope, that before our next annual communication all their difficulties will have been fraternally settled, and the Grand Lodge of Canada found in the great constellation of Grand Lodges of the Universe, receiving from and returning to the others rays of ever growing brilliance, which will continue with increasing effulgence to light up the world, and which can only be dimmed by that greater light of the Heavenly Grand Lodge to come."

The Grand Lodge of Oregon adopt the recommendation of their Committee on Foreign Correspondence, who report the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge do cordially extend the right hand of fellowship to their brethren of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Canada, congratulating them upon the wisdom displayed by them in its formation, and wishing them a long career of happiness and usefulness."

Your committee feel somewhat at a loss what course to take in this matter, yet we must frankly say, that the Grand Lodge of Canada have our warmest sympathies in their position, for their patience and forbearance in not throwing off their allegiance sooner, when the mother Grand Lodge does not seem to listen to their respectful petition. As the subject will be brought before you, with as much light as we are capable of giving without spreading a whole volume before you, we submit it for your action.

District of Columbia.—The journal before us contains the proceedings of this Grand Lodge from May 1st to December 27th, 1855, inclusive. Charles S. Frailey, M. D., Grand Master, and George C. Whiting, Grand Secretary.

Past Grand Master French installed the Grand Master elect, who delivered a very handsome and appropriate address on his accession to the chair.

We also acknowledge the receipt of a copy of the constitution, rules, &c., of that Grand Lodge.

North Carolina.—One hundred Lodges represented.

The Grand Master, in his address, calls attention to the laying of the corner stone of "St. John's College." The presidents of the board of trustees report that they have contracted for the erection of the necessary buildings, at a cost of $22,500.

Most Worshipful P. A. Holt, Grand Master, and William T. Bain, Grand Secretary.

Virginia.—The proceedings of this Grand Lodge were held in the city of Richmond, December 10th, A. D. 1855, James A. Leitch, Grand Master, and John Dove, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master, in his address, makes mention of the decease of their Grand Master, Edward Pendleton Hunter, Grand Tyler, Jesse Read, and the Senior Grand Warden, German B. Gill, "were called from the trials and troubles of this probationary state to that Grand Lodge where the Supreme Ruler of the Universe presides as Master."

Bro. Dove makes report of the publication of the second edition of the "Text Book." We have perused a copy of the first edition, which is fully equal to any now in use.

The committee on work made report "relative to a plan for establishing a Lodge for the purpose of preserving the True Work and Lectures of Ancient York Masonry," as authorized by that Grand Lodge. They propose to charter a Lodge, to consist of fourteen members, all actual present or Past Masters of Lodges, five to reside in Richmond, officers to be chosen for life, the Grand Lecturers and deputies to teach the work as practiced by said Lodge. The subject was postponed for consideration.

The most interesting matter in their journal is the report of the special committee on jurisprudence, on the subjects of non-affiliation, petitions, cases of emergency, honorary membership, reinstatement and form of installation, spread upon forty pages of their journal.

These reports are practical evidence upon matters which have long been the subject of discussion by the several Grand Lodges of the Union, but, from their length, we must abstain from giving them for your consideration.

Massachusetts.—Being the meetings from March 14th to December 27th, 1855, inclusive. Winslow Lewis, Grand Master, Charles W. Moore, Grand Secretary.

We see nothing of importance in their journal to communicate.

Rhode Island.—From June, 1852, to June, 1855, inclusive. Oliver Johnson, Grand Master, and William C. Barker, Grand Secretary.

The journal relates principally to matters of a local nature, except the report on foreign correspondence for the past year.

Alabama.—The Grand Lodge of this State met on the 3d of December, A. D. 1855. Sterling A. M. Wood, Grand Master, and Amand P. Pfister, Grand Secretary.

We have perused the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence with pleasure and profit; the other portion of the journal is wholly of a local nature.

South Carolina.—The proceedings of this Grand Lodge are for January 9th, March 6th, May 3d, June 5th, September 3d, December 1st, 4th, and 27th.

In the minutes of the meeting of March 6th, a petition was presented, "praying that the Past Master's degree might be conferred upon Bro. H. Wideman, who had acted as Master of said Lodge, (Claremont, No. 64,) while it was held under dispensation of the Grand Master." Afterwards, they adopted the following:

"*Resolved*, That the prayer of the said petition be declined, as being contrary to the ancient regulations of the Craft."

Is not that degree part and parcel of the duty of the officer who congregates and sets them to work?

The Grand Secretary's report of December 4th, contains a brief review of foreign correspondence. The few subjects therein treated are ably written, as we well know by the reputation of the Grand Secretary as a Masonic writer.

Vermont.—This Grand Lodge held its Annual Session at Mason's Hall, in the city of Burlington, January 9th, 1856. Philip C. Tucker, Grand Master, and John B. Hollenbeck, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master, in his address, verv feelingly alludes to the decease of their "worthy and beloved Past Grand Master Nathan B. Haswell. The spirit of our esteemed and venerated brother has passed to his Father and our Father, to his God and our God. Henceforth his name represents not a tangible person to our minds, but a spirit, which has passed, for a few years, before our Masonic vision, performing all that belonged to its mission to earth bravely, wisely and well."

A most excellent written report on foreign correspondence is from the pen of their Grand Secretary.

Texas.—The proceedings of this Grand Lodge were held at the city of Galveston, January 21st, 1856, the 19th annual meeting. Franklin B. Sexton was elected Grand Master, and A. S. Ruthven re-elected Grand Secretary. Lodges 182.

The Grand Master notices the decease of two Past Grand Officers, viz.: Past Grand Master John A. Green, and Past Deputy Grand Master Joseph C. Harrison, and says: "Whilst with us, they wrought as true and worthy brethren, manifested at all times a deep interest in the welfare of the Craft, were honored according to their merits, and, having finished their course, we trust have been admitted in the Supreme Grand Lodge above."

He further states: "About eighteen years ago, this Grand Lodge was organized at Houston, by the representatives of three Lodges. We have now 162 chartered Lodges, with about 5000 members." Twenty was added to their record at this meeting.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence takes rank with the most able and well written of the several Grand Lodges that we have perused.

The Committee on the reports of the Grand Officers, among other things, say: "No language of commendation would do justice to the correctness of the judgment, honesty of purpose, and ability in execution, by Bro. Ruthven, as manifested during a long and faithful service to the Grand Lodge for so many years. May he be long spared in his course of usefulness, and finally be gathered to his fathers in the hope of a glorious immortality." And we will add, "well done good and faithful servant," &c.

The same committee report a preamble and resolution, couched in beautiful and appropriate language, expressive of the feelings of the brethren on the death of those mentioned above.

A decision was made, that may be mentioned here. A brother who was a non-affiliated Mason, formerly belonging to another jurisdiction, applied for membership. He produced no certificate from the Lodge of which he was a member. Objection was made without it, though all were well satisfied with him as a Mason, and declined to vote against his admission, but objected, merely to settle the point made, and ascertain the true rule. The Master decided "that the production of a certificate of dimit was unnecessary." The committee say, "though a certificate would be often the most satisfactory evidence, and every brother on dimitting should procure one, yet it has not, and should not be an inflexible rule. It is competent for the Lodges to receive and decide on other Masonic tests and evidences."

The Grand Orator delivered a beautiful address upon the occasion of the installation of the Grand Officers.

Arkansas.—The Grand Master of this Grand Lodge says, in relation to the Fraternity in that State, "all over the length and breadth of our State, the Fraternity is flourishing, and among our red brethren, in the Indian Territory, it is taking deep hold, and now embraces a goodly number of Lodges and brethren. The members of those Lodges compare very favorably with their pale-faced neighbors; in fact it is reported of them, that they exemplify *practically* the Masonic teachings and ritual, by living in the constant discharge of these charities and moral virtues so forcibly inculcated in our lectures, thereby demonstrating to all, that Masonry is not only *speculative*, but that it is a living *practical* reality, of great utility to the human race, and of eminent service to a social community."

He also reports fourteen Lodges under dispensation, and "the foundation of a good library."

The Treasurer of St. John's College reports the total amount of assets to be $15,120.76, a model that many might pattern and reap profit by.

The Grand Secretary reports the amount received on behalf of their college from the subordinates to be $1907.15, and amount due $2288.

Upon their roll, 96 Lodges; date of meeting, November 6th, 1855.

Nathaniel G. Smith was re-elected Grand Master, and Thomas D. Merrick, Grand Secretary.

DELAWARE—The session of this Grand Lodge was held at the city of Wilmington, June 27th, A. L. 5855, A. D. 1855.

This Grand Lodge mourns the death of their Grand Master, James Booth, and passed resolutions expressive of their loss.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence make a very short report, but very good what there is of it.

Alfred P. Robinson was elected Grand Master, and Daniel R. Wolfe, Grand Secretary.

The Fraternity appears to be in a very flourishing condition in our sister State, and we bid her "God speed the good work."

FLORIDA.—The session of the Grand Lodge, of which we have the journal before us, was held January 14th, 1856.

Richard A. Shine, re-elected Grand Master, and John B. Taylor, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master reports the loss by death of "Bro. Isaac H. Bronson, Past Grand Master, Thomas Douglass, Past Grand Master, and Rev. William Choice, Past Grand Chaplain." Suitable resolutions were passed.

PENNSYLVANIA.—The printed journal before us relates principally to the dedication of their new hall, September 26th, 1855.

Peter Williamson, Grand Master, and William H. Adams, Grand Secretary.

CALIFORNIA.—This Grand Lodge held their seventh annual communication in the city of Sacramento, May 6th, A. L. 5856.

William H. Howard, Grand Master, and Alexander G. Abell, Grand Secretary.

Lodges reported upon their record, 101.

The Grand Secretary, among other subjects, reports—"In February last, a communication was received from Most Worshipful Edward Stewart, Grand Master of New Jersey, enclosing $56, it being for $50, which had been voted by the Grand Lodge of New Jersey two years before, on account, as is supposed, of the Sacramento relief fund, and for two years' interest thereon; the Grand Master stating that, through an oversight on his part, the sum appropriated had not been sent at the proper time, and that therefore the amount for interest had been added. The receipt of this sum was acknowledged by the undersigned, in a letter expressive of our appreciation of their kindness on the part of the brethren of New Jersey; and as it was not supposed that the Grand Lodge would desire to keep this money, it was added, that the communication would be laid before you, and that, though the donation would doubtless be returned, the day of our urgent need having passed away, yet the good feeling which prompted the offering would be none the less remembered."

The Finance Committee submitted the following report, which was received, and concurred in:

"Your committee to whom was referred the communication from the Most Worshipful Grand Master of New Jersey, in respect to a donation by the Grand Lodge of that State for the Sacramento relief fund, would submit the following resolutions:

"*Resolved*, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New Jersey, for its kindness and consideration in donating the sum of fifty-six dollars to the aforesaid fund.

"*Resolved*, That inasmuch as this Grand Lodge has already made as large appropriations of indemnity to the Sacramento sufferers of 1849 and 1850, as seem to it just and equitable, the amount remitted to us from New Jersey be returned to said Grand Lodge, agreeably to the conjectural expression of our Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, in his reply to the communication above referred to."

Annexed to their journal is their constitution and by-laws, regulations relative to trials, standing resolutions, a uniform code of by-laws for subordinates, and a list of all the members, making 449 pages.

William H. Howard was re-elected Grand Master, and Alexander G. Abell, Grand Secretary.

Missouri.—The proceedings of this Grand Lodge, now before us, contain the minutes of an annual communication, held in the city of Lexington, May 26th, A. D. 1856, A. L. 5856.

Benjamin Sharp was elected Grand Master, and A. O'Sullivan, re-elected Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master (L. S. Cornwell) reports, that "Past Grand Master Hon. Wilson Brown, having been called to pass through the valley of the shadow of death, we are left to mourn his loss to the State and the Fraternity. Although our brother was prevented by professional duties from taking an active part in the deliberations of the Grand Lodge, yet, as a true Mason, an honorable gentleman, and tried friend, he was always found where duty called. To his immediate friends and relations we tender our sincere condolence."

He urges the brethren not to receive the work from itinerant lecturers, and requests the Grand Lodge to take action.

Their college is not in a very flourishing condition, and represents its present liabilities to be about nine thousand dollars.

A resolution was passed acknowledging the organization of the Grand Lodge of Kansas, as an independent Grand Lodge possessing equal rights with other Grand Lodges of the United States.

Kansas.—We have before us the first journal of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, December 27th, A, D. 1855, and March 17th, A. D. 1856,

at Leavenworth City, containing their organization, appointment of committees, &c., and constitution, by-laws, and regulations.

Richard R. Rees was elected Grand Master, and Charles T. Harrison, Grand Secretary.

We hail with pleasure the advent of our sister, and welcome her among the family of Grand Lodges in correspondence with us.

A pamphlet entitled, "Fragments of a report on the signs of the times, addressed to reflecting Free Masons, by Joseph Foster," Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Missouri.

He states in the beginning, the "object of presenting it at all, is based on a strong desire to guard the Fraternity, so far as in me lies, against the errors, both in theory and practice, which are not only insidiously engrafting themselves on our ancient society, but are destined unless speedily checked and beat back by the conservative and faithful Masons to their proper sphere, to divest our Fraternity of all those ancient and conservative principles which have been its glory for ages."

The whole of this pamphlet seems to admonish and warn the Craft of the rapid increase of Lodges, literature, and everything else that may tend to its destruction.

We must say, that it is well written, and the language is very plain, and yet almost every one must admit the truths it presents for reflection.

Maine.—The annual meeting of this Grand Lodge was held in the city of Portland, May 1st, 1856; 63 Lodges represented.

The Grand Master cautions the Lodges, as to the proper care on the admission of members, and never to be in haste in conferring the degrees. He concludes his address with some sterling truths, which we must copy:

"The duties pertaining to the office of Grand Master, although pleasant, require more labor, care, and attention than I was aware of; those duties I have performed to the best of my ability, and it affords me great satisfaction to reflect that my brethren are of too generous a disposition to severely censure what they believe to have been well intended, although its want of merit and correctness should prevent their being able to approve of it. Almost fifty-three years of my life I have been connected with the Masonic institution; I have spent many pleasant hours with brethren, some of whom are gone, while others live; I have received many tokens of their kind regard. During that period, I have paid some attention, as my brethren all know, to the theory of Masonry, but have always found the practical part of Masonry the hardest and most difficult to learn; and should I be inquired of, how that can be overcome and made less difficult, I know of no better answer or advice to give, than to set your standard of morals high. All aim for it, all strive to win the prize; and if any should seem to come short of it, as you probably will, it may afford you some satisfaction to reffect that God looks at the motive;

and that, although David was not permitted to build the temple, yet he was blessed because he had it in his heart so to do."

Afterward it was unanimously voted, "that the thanks of the Grand Lodge be presented to Most Worshipful John Miller, Past Grand Master, for the courteous and fraternal manner in which he has presided over its deliberations, and the diligence, fidelity, and Masonic devotedness with which he has discharged his duties, as Grand Master, during the past year."

Bro. Joseph Covell submitted a proposition to publish a history of the Grand Lodge, on certain conditions, viz.:

The Grand Lodge to pay the expenses of publishing a prospectus, &c.; subscribe for 125 copies, furnish copies of proceedings, and secure to the author the copyright; making two volumes, of 500 pages each, at $1.50 per volume, provided eight hundred copies will be subscribed; which was referred to the Committee on By-Laws.

An able review on foreign correspondence, by Bro. Cyril Pearl, concludes this interesting journal of 112 pages.

Jabez True was elected Grand Master, and Ira Berry, Grand Secretary.

Indiana.—The meeting of this Grand Lodge, a printed copy of which is before us, was held in the city of Indianapolis, May 26th, 1856, and have 205 Lodges on their register.

The address of the Grand Master contains matter almost wholly of a local nature, and the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, through ill-health and press of business, was prevented from drawing out a more lengthy report.

Alexander C. Douney was re-elected Grand Master, and Francis King, Grand Secretary.

New York.—This Grand Lodge held their annual meeting in the city of New York on the 3d day of June, A. D. 1856, with a representation from 273 Lodges.

The Grand Master (Joseph D. Evans) states "there has never been a period when the condition of Masonry in this State has been more healthful and propitious than it is at present. Peace dwelleth within her walls, and prosperity within her palaces."

They have 319 warranted Lodges, and 13 under dispensation; and he covers the ground of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West with an argument against their independent course, and discountenances all who are engaged therein. He concludes with expressions of his regard and esteem for the assistance rendered him by the Grand Treasurer and Secretary.

The Grand Secretary reports the receipts for the past year to be the sum of $16,005.73; thirty-two Lodges under dispensation. "The number

of members registered for the past year is 9245, which makes the whole number now registered to be 19,561.

A preamble and resolutions were presented, as passed by the Grand Lodge, of Pennsylvania, January 7th, 1856, offering their mediation to settle and arrange the Masonic difficulties in the State, which were referred to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, who made a very able and elaborate report that session, declining their proposition; and the resolution prohibiting all Masonic intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, was laid on the table.

On page 39 of their journal, the Grand Secretary read a communication from our Grand Master, enclosing a copy of the preamble and resolution relative to the Lodges in the States of Pennsylvania and New York entertaining petitions for membership from residents of this State, and referred to the committee on condition of Masonry, who subsequently made report and presented the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge does hereby disapprove of any of her Subordinate Lodges initiating any candidate who is a resident of another State, without the recommendation and consent of the Grand Lodge of the State, or the Lodge nearest to the residence of the candidate."

Afterwards, the following sentence will show what disposition was made of it:

"The report of the committee on the communication from the Grand Lodge of New Jersey was taken from the table; and, on motion, the consideration of the report *was laid on the table*, and the Grand Secretary was instructed to communicate to the Grand Lodge of New Jersey the previous action of this Grand Lodge on that subject."

We hail with pleasure the able report on foreign correspondence, which we are sure to meet with in their journal, embracing copiously the whole of the several Grand Lodges in the civilized world, written and collected by Bro. Finley M. King, Senior Grand Warden, of Port Byron, containing sixty-six closely printed pages of their journal, in which they recommend the adoption of several resolutions:

1. That the Masters of Lodges, except in cities where there are more than one Lodge, were directed to ascertain the number of non-affiliated Masons in their several jurisdictions, and report the same with their next annual returns.

2. That the Masters of Lodges, secretaries, and other brethren, make all necessary inquiries, and collect and forward to the committee, to be appointed by the Grand Lodge, any and all Masonic documents, communications, records, or charters of Lodges now extinct, which may tend to throw any light upon the history of Masonry in this State.

3. A committee of one to compile and write such history, and hold correspondence with a view to collect such materials for said history, &c.

4. Refusing to acknowledge the newly organized Grand Lodge of Canada.

5. Authorizes the committee on third resolution to expend twenty-five dollars per year, and report at the next meeting.

The first, second and fourth were adopted, third laid on the table, and fifth to Finance Committee.

The third was reconsidered and carried. The Grand Master appointed the Most Worshipful and Rev. Salem Town, L.L. D.

A resolution was adopted, as reported by the committee on condition of Masonry, that no candidate shall be passed to the degree of Fellow Craft, or raised to the degree of Master Mason, in any Subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, without proof of proficiency in the preceding degree; which shall be ascertained by examination of a competent committee, to be appointed by the Worshipful Master, or examination in open Lodge.

The committee further reported, that an application had been made "for membership by a person who received his degrees in a Lodge declared by the Grand Lodge to be clandestine, and that they wish for information as to the mode of proceeding."

A Subordinate Lodge cannot admit to membership a clandestinely made Mason, without permission from the Grand Lodge. This, therefore, presupposes the idea that the Grand Lodge is the primary source of this power, in the exercise of its sovereignty, and may dictate the mode, providing no landmark be violated. If satisfied that a candidate was not properly made, they may require the degrees to be conferred anew.

If the only question be as to the regularity of the body, when made, they may require a new obligation, or impose such other conditions as the case may require.

If permission from the Grand Lodge be obtained, they recommend the candidate be obligated anew, in compliance with the more usual custom in such cases.

Mississippi.—The proceedings of this Grand Lodge we have before us is of an Annual Communication, held at the city of Vicksburg, January 21st, A. D. 1856.

The address of the Grand Master, Giles M. Hillyer, spread upon fourteen pages, is a very able production, relating chiefly to their own jurisdiction, and not of such a nature to give a sketch that would be of sufficient interest to the Craft. But we must be permitted to copy one sentence at the close, which we think possesses more than ordinary interest on account of its peculiar fitness to the occasion:

"We are proud of belonging to an institution, which has come down from far distant ages, an enigma and a mystery to the world without its portals, to whose councils a Solomon gave direction; over whose Lodges a St. John presided; to whose rolls monarchs have added the lustre of their names, and given to its teachings the title of the Royal Art; to

whose purity the good and the wise of the earth have attested, in life and in death; whose principles are universal, and which never could have survived the lapse of time, had not virtue marked it for her own, and Deity lent it His approving smiles. Venerable in its antiquity; overflowing in its rich stores of learning; appealing to the heart for the purity of its morals, to the mind for the vast range of knowledge which it has transmitted from age to age, and to every clime and country for evidences of its history, Masonry stands now where it has stood for centuries piled on centuries, cultivating the same virtues and the same liberal arts; subduing the same passions; teaching the same great lesson of man's mortality, of the resurrection of the body and the immortality of the soul; and inculcating the duty of so wearing throughout life the emblem of innocence as the badge of Masonic character, that when the golden bowl is broken, and the silver cord is loosened, we may be raised by the Grand Master of heaven and earth to a knowledge of the great secrets, and a participation in the great joys, of the life to come.

"Then, in that awful day, when the secrets of all hearts shall be disclosed, the gazing multitude, who have curiously inquired our secrets, shall be astonished to know that the greatest deep of Masonic secrecy was the unpublished act of doing good."

A resolution was passed, that seven members be a committee "to inquire whether there is any regular and constitutional Grand Lodge of Masons in the State of New York, acting under the name and style of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, which ought to be recognized by this Grand Lodge, and that the committee so appointed" was requested to report at an early day the result of their deliberations.

A majority of the committee on the aforesaid resolution made a somewhat lengthy report, reviewing the difficulties which took place on the severance of the old Grand Lodge, and concluding by resolutions regretting the "difficulties which have so long existed among the Craft," and acknowledging that body "over which M. W. John D. Willard presided as Grand Master in 1849, and over which M. W. Joseph D. Evans now presides," and instructed their Grand Secretary to correspond with them.

The minority report is short, embracing nine different points:

1. Past Masters have no inherent rights of membership.

2. From the original charter, they "were component parts of the organization."

3. Troubles in 1823, relative to the subject of Past Masters, ended in the compact of 1827.

4. After having made it, no alteration should deprive them of their rights.

5. Power of amendment to a constitution does not extend to the component parts of an organization so as to have a retroactive effect, or deprive members already enjoying privileges.

6. By the dissolution of a Grand Lodge, it does not occur that the one or the other of the two Grand Lodges is the *old* Grand Lodge.

7. When a portion was excluded, it was revolutionary and a dissolution; the remainder could not make up a new body, but no longer the old one.

8. Having declined to recognize either, no reason for changing opinion.

9. Hopes for a speedy termination of their troubles.

A reply was presented, and a rejoinder was offered to the reply.

The report of the majority was adopted.

Giles M. Hillyer was re-elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful T. Daniel, Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND.—This Grand Lodge journal is from July to November, 1855.

A resolution was passed previously appointing a committee "to employ a suitable person to compile a history of Free Masonry in Maryland;" which committee reported "that they have employed the Rev. Bro. J. N. McJilton for the purpose;" approved.

Most Worshipful Charles Webb was elected Grand Master, and Joseph Robinson re-elected Grand Secretary.

MINNESOTA.—The proceedings of this Grand Lodge is of the meeting held at the city of Saint Paul, January 7th, 1856.

The address of the Grand Master is a well written document, the pen directed by a sound mind.

They report a constitution, by-laws, and general regulations for the approval of their several subordinates.

Most Worshipful A. T. C. Pierson was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Henry Reynolds, Grand Secretary.

GEORGIA.—This Grand Lodge held their Annual Communication in the city of Macon, October 30th, 1855. We see nothing therein of sufficient importance to notice here.

Most Worshipful William C. Dawson was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Simri Rose, Grand Secretary.

Since receiving the aforesaid journal, a printed circular has been received, announcing the decease of their Grand Master in affectionate and feeling terms.

LOUISIANA.—This pamphlet contains the proceedings of a meeting of this Grand Lodge, held at New Orleans, February 11th, 1856, with a representation from fifty-one Lodges.

The Grand Master makes known the pleasing intelligence, that "the union of *all* the Masonic Lodges of this State is complete, and their representatives are now, or ought to be here." He further says, "it will be found that Masonry is generally prospering, and that there is annually a great accession to our numerical force."

We regret that our proceedings have not reached this Grand Lodge, and must charge the post office department with the fault.

Most Worshipful William M. Perkins was re-elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful Samuel G. Risk, Grand Secretary.

OREGON.—The proceedings before us contain the minutes of their annual meeting, held at the city of Portland, June 9th, 1856, in which we see nothing to call attention.

Most Worshipful A. M. Belt was elected Grand Master, and W. S. Caldwell, Grand Secretary.

IOWA.—This Grand Lodge held its thirteenth Grand Annual Communication in Oskaloosa, June 3d, A. D. 1856.

The Grand Master reports the Lodges prosperous. Twenty-three dispensations were granted by him for the formation of new Lodges.

In speaking of the recent organization, called the Grand Lodge of Canada, he recommends that its legitimacy be acknowledged.

Also, that a Masonic history of the State be written and published, and some brother appointed to collect and prepare the materials. The Grand Secretary, Bro. T. S. Parvin, was appointed.

The select committee, to whom was referred the recommendation of the Grand Master relative to the acknowledgment of the Grand Lodge of Canada, reported "a cordial recognition" of that Grand Lodge; which was unanimously adopted.

An able and comprehensive report on foreign correspondence is from the pen of Bro. J. F. Sanford, the chairman.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—This Grand Lodge held their annual communication at Concord, June 10th, 1856.

They resolve "that, until advised of the action of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of England on the alleged grievances of our brethren in Canada, this Grand Lodge deems it proper and Masonic to refrain from any expression of opinion on the subject, and that no recognition of, or intercourse with the said Grand Lodge of Canada should be had by this Grand Lodge or any of its subordinates."

Most Worshipful Alfred Greeley was elected Grand Master, and Horace Chase, Grand Secretary.

MICHIGAN.—The proceedings before us are of date the 9th day of January, A. D. 1856, A. L. 5856, with a representation from 68 Lodges, and 10 under dispensation.

They seem to be in a very flourishing condition, and their proceedings to be altogether of a local character.

Most Worshipful George C. Munro was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful James Fenton, re-elected Grand Secretary.

Connecticut.—This Grand Lodge held its annual meeting in the city of New Haven, the 14th and 15th of May, A. L. 5856, A. D. 1856; 44 Lodges represented.

The Grand Master's address relates wholly to matters of their own common government.

The Grand Lodge accepted the report of a committee to appoint representatives in the Grand Orient of France and Grand Lodge of New York.

The committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's report as relates to the decease of Past Grand Master William H. Ellis, pay a very touching eulogy to his memory, and pass the customary resolutions.

The whole number reported to membership is 3903, initiations 510, rejections 37, expulsions 3, suspensions 9, deaths 46, dues to Grand Lodge $510.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence must have been a task of infinite labor, combined with good judgment, and, we think, ranks with the best.

Most Worshipful William L. Brewer was elected Grand Master, and Right Worshipful E. G. Storer was re-elected Grand Secretary.

Rhode Island.—The pamphlet before us contains the minutes of their meeting for the year ending June 24th, A. L. 5856, being the sixty-fifth anniversary, wherein we see nothing of moment to report.

Most Worshipful Oliver Johnson was elected Grand Master, and William C. Barker, Grand Secretary.

With the foregoing, we draw our labors to a close, and we hope that they may be acceptable to our readers.

All which is respectfully submitted.

Jos. H. Hough, *Chairman.*

Dated January 10th, A. L. 5857.

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